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THE GAME BREEDER

VOL. IX.

APRIL, 1916

No. 1

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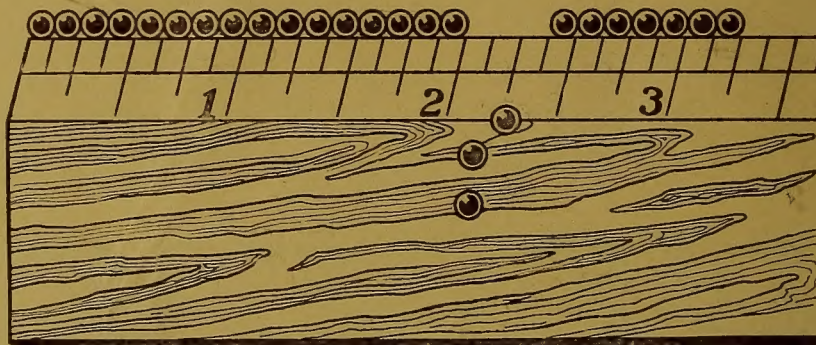
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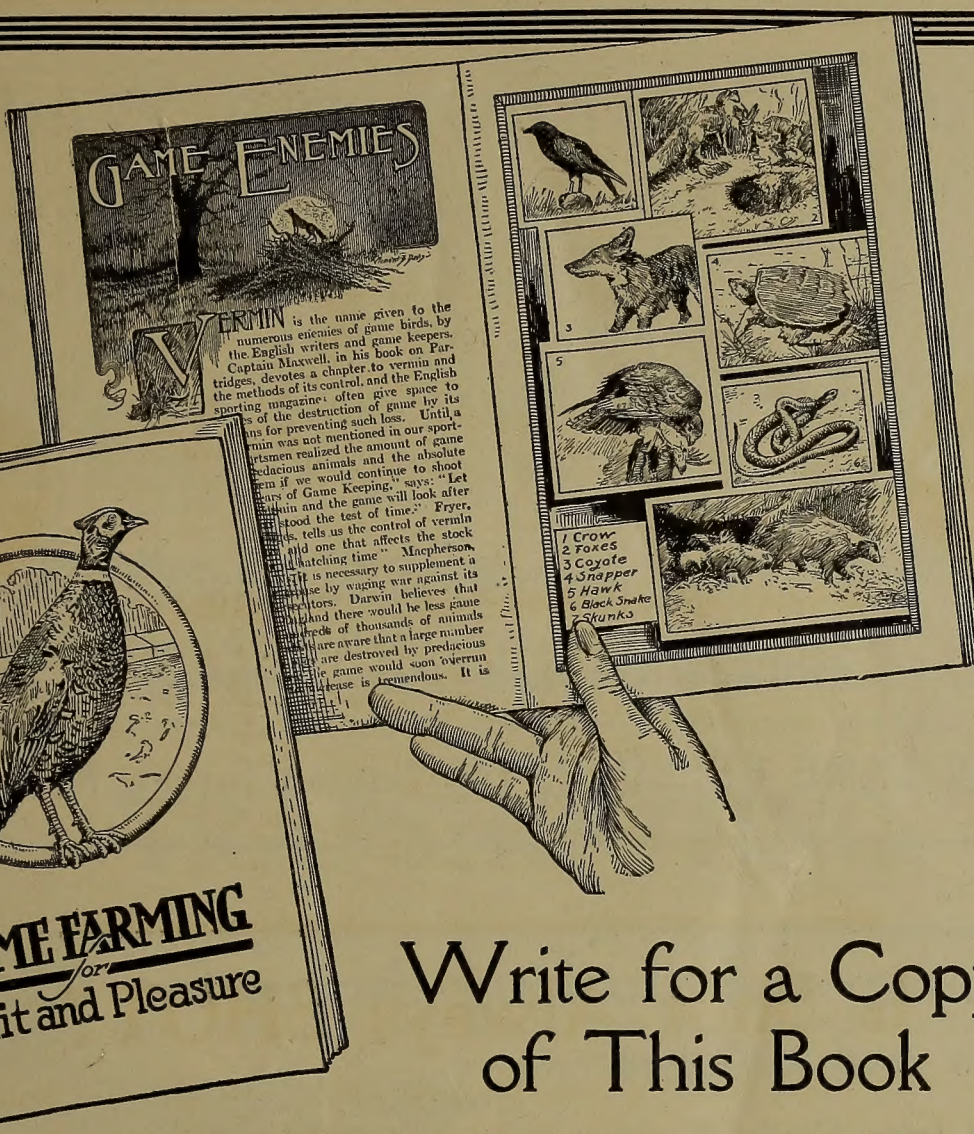
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The Game Breeder

Published Monthly. Entered as second-class matter, July 9, 1915, at the Post Office, New York City, New York, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

VOLUME IX

APRIL, 1916

NUMBER 1



SURVEY OF THE FIELD.

All Up For Kentucky.

Here is a clause in a bill that will probably be enacted into a law in Kentucky before this issue reaches our readers:

"That all game birds and game animals reared or bred in captivity shall be considered domesticated stock and the owners or raisers thereof may keep, sell, ship, transport, or otherwise dispose of them, and such stock shall not be effected or covered by the law prohibiting or regulating the killing or disposition of game birds or game animals, when the breeders or owners thereof have a permit for the keeping, selling, shipping, transporting or otherwise disposing of them. Such permits shall be issued by the Game and Fish Commission upon application and shall be granted where the said birds or animals have been lawfully acquired and raised. Provided, that the dead body or parts thereof of any bird or animal, lawfully reared in captivity, may be sold when such animal or bird or part thereof is marked with a metal tag, said tag to be furnished by the Game and Fish Commission upon application, and no charge shall be made except for actual cost of said tag or tags."

The foregoing seems to reflect the genial countenance and ideals of that practical game saver, Mr. Talbot, of Indiana.

=

Quail in Rhode Island.

There is no living creature save a quail that will work all the summer and fall for the farmer and then supply him with the best of food for his table. And all the quail requires is to live in peace until he is wanted for food with a lit-

tle attention when deep snows cover the ground in winter. Owing to the recent severe weather in Rhode Island, the Fish and Game Protective Association have made an appeal to the people of the state to help feed the birds. The deep snow has covered up the food that nature provides for them and they have had an unusually hard time. The association's members are doing all they can to help the birds, but have appealed to the people to help them scatter cracked grain or other food in the places that the quail and other birds have been seen to frequent. They request the farmers to throw the sweepings of their haymows or cracked grain on the edges of the wood. Bob White is really a hardy little fellow, but there is waste ground enough in country localities so he might have places of refuge in winter where he would be safe and be sure of modest rations.

=

Angling in Ice Bound Streams.

Candidly, it looks as if the objections by anglers to the ruling of the New York Conservation Commission that there shall be no fishing for brook trout while streams are ice bound, will not quite "hold water." In effect they are that all trout fishermen know that when the streams are filled with "ice and snow water, trout will not rise to the bait." By the same token, why should any one want to angle when "trout will not rise to the bait?" The object of the law was no doubt to prevent fishing in some rushing stream that may have cleared itself of ice in places before the winter is over. It is no great hardship to forbid all from doing that which few care to do and which no one should care to do.

Deer in Vermont.

Deer are so plentiful in some parts of Vermont that during the recent blizzard weather and deep snow there the farmers opened their barn doors and yards to them and provided them with rations of crushed apples. Venison is easier and cheaper to produce than beef, and it is worth twice as much as beef in the New York market. Yet what object is there in producing it when there is a law forbidding the farmers of Vermont from selling it in the New York market? Who would care to rear chickens or swine or sheep, or anything else on the farm, if it were unlawful to sell it? But better times are coming for those who want to produce venison and for those who want to purchase it. There is nothing in the world that so serves to make a thing scarce as not to be able to sell it, and nothing that tends to make it so plentiful as to be able to sell it for a good price. It is due solely to the mandate of a statute that deer are now roaming in large numbers in Vermont, and it is due solely to a law that the State is unable to profit by it.

Returns From California.

In a personal letter the executive officer of the California Fish and Game Commission says the "Commission is strongly in favor of breeding game in large numbers. The commission has expended approximately \$75,000 in the effort to make game breeding an industry of the State and is doing and will do nothing to hamper the operations of legitimate breeders, no matter how small or how large they may be. We have given to such breeders and have sold them at far less than cost, several thousand dollars worth of pheasants and other birds, to be used for breeding stock. In fact, if there is anything that the Commission should and could do to aid the game breeders of California, that thing either has been done already or will be done the moment the need and the remedy is called to our attention." And the reward for this effort and expense shall come later—"some thirtyfold, some sixtyfold and some an hundredfold."

Much in a Name.

There is a daily paper in Council Bluffs, Iowa, which is called "The Nonpareil," and to the request of State Game Warden Hinshaw that Iowa have a game farm to encourage and teach game breeding as an industry, this six point newspaper responds that such an idea is a "pipe dream." If it would do any good we might refer this Rip Van Winkle editor to what is being done to make game breeding a profitable industry in many other states. But he is so far in the rear of the run of progress that he can't hear the music of the band wagon.

=

Who is the "Moloch?"

The opposition of game breeders and wardens of New York State to the importation of game bred in other states has such a slender foundation of reason that it can scarcely be very strong numerically. As well oppose the importation of potatoes or beef from other states. It has been hinted that if game from other states be brought to New York City it will all be gobbled up by a certain "Moloch" just as were the first-born of the Ammonites of old. If there is any truth in this then it were better to get rid of the Moloch and let the game come in. The injury of many for the benefit of a few is out of date. This is the 20th century and not B. C. times. "Have a heart."

=

A Hard New Jersey Winter.

It has been an unusually severe winter for wild birds in New Jersey, not so much because of the snow and sleet as because there was only a meager food supply under the best weather conditions.

But a concerted movement for feeding them would easily obviate their distress. Farmers feed their chickens 365 days of the year. It is rare that wild birds need be fed more than a dozen times a year and except in abnormal winter weather they need not be fed at all. A country without birds is like an abandoned, rotting and dilapidated dwelling, unfit for human habitation.

THE SILVER FOX.

BY NED DEARBORN,

Assistant Biologist, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

- [This historical sketch of the silver fox industry is from bulletin No. 301, U. S. Department of Agriculture. The bulletin contains much valuable information about the area suitable for foxes, the food, the handling, etc., and is illustrated with cuts showing inclosures. Readers interested in fur farming can procure the bulletin by writing to the Agricultural Department.]

The name "silver fox," as commonly used by furriers, includes the dark phases of the ordinary red fox, variously called silver, silver gray, silver black, or black. It should not be confused with the gray, or tree, fox of the United States, the fur of which is of comparatively little value. The color of the red fox of the North-eastern States and of its allies of the colder parts of North America varies from red to black, and these extremes, with their gradations, form four more or less distinct phases, known respectively as red, cross (or patch), silver, and black. In the red phase the fur is entirely rich fulvous, except for restricted black markings on the feet and ears, a white area at the end of the tail, and certain white-tipped hairs on the back and rump. Grading into the next phase the black increases in extent until, in the typical cross fox, the black predominates on the feet, legs and underparts, while fulvous overlaying black covers most of the head, shoulders and back. A gradual increase of the black and elimination of the fulvous, or its replacement by white, results in the next phase, the silver (or silver gray) fox, in which the entire pelage is dark at the base and heavily or lightly overlaid with grayish white. The color of silver foxes varies from grizzly to pure black, except for a few white-tipped hairs on the back and rump. Finally, in the black phase, the white is absent from all parts except the tip of the tail, which is white in all four phases. The red phase is much more abundant than the others, but all four interbreed freely, and wherever one occurs occasional examples of the others may be expected. In general the cross fox is

fairly common, the silver gray scarce, and the pure black very rare.

The market value of skins of the different phases depends upon the relative scarcity of the animals. The price paid for black skins, however, has recently fallen considerably below that of silvers, for the reason that furriers now dye ordinary red fox skins a lustrous black, and put them on the market at a comparatively low figure.

Domestication of the fox was first achieved in 1894 by Robert T. Oulton and Charles Dalton on Prince Edward Island, a Canadian Province in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Silver fox pelts have continuously commanded high prices, and hunters have been correspondingly keen to secure them. It is not strange, therefore, that the first successful breeders of this rare animal were men who had pursued it in the chase. The two mentioned had hunted foxes together and had frequently bought and sold fox pelts of their neighbors. Oulton was once lucky enough to shoot a silver fox, the skin of which netted \$138. Becoming impressed with the possibility of domesticating such valuable fur bearers, Oulton and Dalton separately experimented in building fox-proof fences and in feeding and breeding the animals. After several years' work on these problems they formed a partnership in 1894, built a ranch, and stocked it with two pairs of silver foxes. This became the first profitable fox ranch, the forerunner of a remarkable and, for that region, a revolutionizing industry.

At that time black pelts brought much higher prices than silver pelts. This prompted Oulton & Dalton to retain their

darker animals and dispose of the lighter ones, and as a result each successive lot of pelts from their yards was darker than those of previous years. Finally, in 1910, they were able to send to the London sales the finest collection of silver fox pelts that had ever appeared there. This lot, containing 25 pelts, brought an average of \$1,386 each, the best one selling for \$2,624. In the meantime a few other small ranches had been started in the Maritime Provinces, Newfoundland, Maine, Ontario, Michigan and Alaska. The policy of the half dozen Prince Edward Islanders in that business had been to monopolize it. They had kept their own counsel, and not even their families were enlightened as to methods. The pelts had been shipped three in a package by parcel post from a distant post office, and reports of the sales had been received in code. The fox raisers had entered into a compact to sell no live silver foxes and had bought the best that could be obtained. Notwithstanding their secrecy, the evident improvement in their financial conditions was noticed by their neighbors, who thereupon desired to participate.

Disclosure of the results of the 1910 sales was the climax of the first stage in the development of fox farming. People who formerly had known something of the business were now eager to engage in it. Those having money invested it in foxes. Others mortgaged their farms for the purpose or fitted up ranching facilities and boarded foxes for a share of the progeny. How rapidly prices for breeding stock advanced is well illustrated by the experience of one ranchman who sold his first pair of cubs for \$750, and other pairs successively for \$3,000, \$12,000, \$13,000 and \$14,000. In the fall of 1913 good ranch-bred cubs six months old sold for from \$11,000 to \$15,000 a pair. Pairs that had had large litters were valued at about twice as much as six-months-old cubs.

The maintenance of this prodigious inflation of prices was due mainly to stock companies, which originally were formed by individuals without sufficient capital

to engage in fox farming alone. Almost immediately, however, companies were formed for the benefit of those having foxes to sell. It was customary for a company to take them over. An attractive prospectus containing pictures of silver foxes, an account of the 1910 sale of pelts, and a list of companies which had paid dividends of 20 to 500 per cent. was published, and the stock sold through brokers and solicitors. Foxes that would bring \$12,000 or \$15,000 a pair in the open market were usually capitalized in companies at \$18,000 or \$20,000, which, after allowing for commissions, installation of pens, and other ranch necessities, left a tolerably safe balance from which to pay the first year's running expenses. Another reason for the multiplication of fox companies is found in the income to be derived from them by brokers and promoters, and many companies were formed by men having no other interest. The outbreak of the European war, in the summer of 1914, interrupted and probably ended these speculative operations. Ranch-bred silver foxes have recently been advertised for sale at from \$1,500 to \$2,000 a pair. In some of the western Provinces and Territories of Canada, where only those foxes born or kept for a year or more in captivity are allowed to be exported, prices of wild half-grown silvers run from \$150 to \$250 each. Prior to the war a general stagnation in the fur trade was beginning to have a depressing influence on prices of live foxes. The June, 1914, sale of silver fox skins in London averaged only about \$118 each. From present indications values of foxes and of pelts are likely soon to fall as low as they were before 1910.

In the pioneer days, when proper methods of handling foxes were unknown, many failures resulted from ignorance and carelessness. The excitement following the fur sales of 1910 hastened the improvement of methods of feeding, handling and breeding. It also broke the monopoly, and caused a rapid distribution of foxes and of information concerning them. Now, with a comparatively large number of silver

foxes in domestication, with a clearer understanding of their successful management, and with a return of moderate prices for breeders, a steady, healthy and general development of silver fox farming may be expected.

Fox ranches are established in most of the Canadian Provinces and in Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Oregon, Washington and Alaska. In 1913 there were 277 fox ranches on Prince Edward Island alone. There foxes have the same status as other domestic animals in being subject to taxation; this in 1913 yielded the Province a revenue of \$37,172. In a recent report written from Charlottetown by Consul Livingston T. Mays the number of domestic silver foxes on Prince Edward Island in April, 1914, was given as about 1,600, and in the following December as about 2,600, the increase for the year being approximately 66 per cent., or considerably below the average increase of former years. The value of the foxes on this island at

the close of 1913, as estimated by the Commissioner of Agriculture, was over \$15,000,000. A report of the provincial secretary, issued May 7, 1914, shows that there had been incorporated in the Province up to that time 196 fur-farming companies, nearly all of which were devoted to fox raising, carrying an authorized capitalization of \$24,305,700. In December, 1914, the United States consul on Prince Edward Island reported that the capitalization had reached \$31,500,000. From the foregoing it is evident that anyone contemplating an investment in fox farming, either directly or in the stock of an organized company, should first carefully consider all values in their relation to the actual returns possible from the average increase of the breeding stock. As pointed out elsewhere in this bulletin, prices of both live silver foxes and fox pelts are now far below prices paid a few years ago. The business of fox breeding will be on a much more stable basis than at present when the value of breeding animals bears an approximate relation to the value of their pelts in the open market.

WALLACE EVANS GAME FARM.

Wood Duck in Large Numbers and Pheasants Reared Near St. Charles, Ill.

I raise every year large numbers of the different varieties of wild ducks, especially wood ducks. Last season I raised over twelve hundred young wood ducks, and this spring I expect to raise more still as I am keeping over an extra large breeding stock, and the natural lakes and running water on our new farm seems to be well adapted for the raising of the rarer varieties of wild ducks.

All my wood hens last year averaged about thirty eggs each, and I expect to get even more this season. I also breed quite a number of Mandarin ducks, the hens of this variety seldom lay over ten or twelve eggs in a season, which are generally very fertile and the birds are strong and very easy to raise.

I have never done very much with black mallards, as there seems to be very little demand for them, and it hardly pays to keep a large flock of breeders; real wild black mallards in captivity seldom lay over twenty eggs to a bird even when they are forced with the correct kind of foods.

I have never succeeded in getting Blue Wing Teal to lay over sixteen or eighteen eggs, no matter how carefully they are fed, and the same applies to the Green Wing and the Gargany. I usually lift part of the eggs from the different varieties of wild ducks and hatch them under chickens, except in the wood ducks and mallards. These, of course, are all raised with chickens.

On our new farm here all these birds have large ponds and many acres of land to roam over, and it is very hard for us to locate all the nests of the wild ducks, and especially so of the nests of the different varieties of teal. I have always had splendid luck in raising the Ruddy ducks, especially the European. Some of these build their nests three or four feet in the earth around the banks of the ponds, but last year I succeeded in getting a good many of the Ruddys to build their nests in open ended boxes somewhat like the ones we use for wood ducks.

My success in raising nearly all the rarer varieties of pheasants and ducks is due to a great extent to my being able to furnish them with the proper kinds of food not alone during the breeding season, but during the winter months. Nearly all of the rarer and expensive varieties of pheasants which are kept in the different zoological parks throughout the world die for want of the correct kind of food. For instance, the Tragopans, Monauls and other high altitude birds seldom survive in these zoos over two years, but if properly fed they will live from five to ten years and even longer.

I am sending you under separate cover a sample of the correct food for feeding

the rarer varieties of pheasants so that you can see the difference between it and the ordinary domestic poultry food which is generally used which "turns their toes to the daisies" sooner or later.

I will send you some photos of my vermin trap later. I consider this kind of trap positively the best thing that has ever been invented for this particular business, and I can assure you that I would not be able to run this farm successfully without them. They catch raccoons, minks, skunks, weasels, possums, rats and cats. These traps will catch old rats around buildings when all other traps fail. There is hardly a day during the year that my men don't bring in several head of vermin after making the rounds of these traps. I use them mostly on the boundary fences which on our new farm runs miles without a break in them. It takes nearly all one man's time to keep down the vermin here and even then we have disastrous losses from time to time.

By the end of this year we expect to have the farm nearly completed, and I can assure you it will be a peach when we get through with it. We have our own railroad tracks and private freight station on the farm, which makes it very handy and inexpensive for handling our feed and the shipping out of live stock.

CAT TALES.

Told by E. H. Forbush, Massachusetts State Ornithologist.

Destroys a Universal Pest.

The United States Department of Agriculture has made a study of the economic value of the quail and has found that it is virtually the only bird which devours that universal pest, the potato bug.

=

Robins for Breakfast.

Miss Helen Winslow says that her aunt in Greenfield had a cat that was in the habit of catching his own breakfast early each summer morning before the family was up—a very common habit by the way. Invariably, she says, just

before her aunt's rising hour the cat brought in a nice fat robin, unharmed, and penned it in the corner of the kitchen, apparently as a gift for the aunt. Although the bird always was set free the cat continued to catch one each morning having first caught its own breakfast. It would be interesting to know how many birds that cat ate that season beside those that it brought in.

=

Fecundity of the Cat.

Cats are known to have from two to four broods yearly, with from five to nine in each brood. Fostered and pro-

tected from their enemies, a single pair might produce an enormous number in a few years. Hence the necessity for checking such increase promptly by killing all superfluous kittens soon after birth. An undue increase of the species must occur otherwise as cats have very few effective natural enemies in the New England States.

=

Vagabond Cats in the Country.

Wild or feral house cats that pass their lives mainly in the fields or woods are seen rarely by human eyes, except by those of the hunter or naturalist. Therefore many people who have never investigated the matter, and never have seen such cats, find it hard to believe that they are numerous enough to be a great menace to wild life, but nearly all my most observant correspondents who roam the woods and fields report traces of many cats.

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On 20 Acres.

Mrs. Mabel Osgood Wright, Fairfield, Conn., president of the Connecticut Audubon Society, writes that in seven months, twenty-eight cats have been shot on her twenty acres, although the six nearest neighbors keep none.

=

Ye Historick Cat of 1498.

The cat is surely most like to the Leopard, and hath a great mouthe, and sharp teeth, and a long tongue, plyante, thin and subtle. He lappeth therewith when he drinketh, as other beastes do that have the nether lip shorter than the over; for, by cause of unevenness of lips, such beastes suck not in drinking, but lap and lick as Aristotle saith, and Plinius also.

=

Bird Slaughter by Cats.

Dr. Anne E. Perkins of Gowanda, N. Y., who has had a long experience with pets, tells of a cat which brought in meadowlarks, an oven-bird, two humming birds and a flicker within a few days.

=

Birds Killed Per Cat.

Numerous correspondents have known individual cats to kill from 2 to 8 birds

in a day, but the average is much smaller than this. Two hundred and twenty-six correspondents report the maximum number of birds they have known to be killed by 1 cat in a day, and the day's work for these 226 cats is 624 birds, or 2.7 birds per cat per day.

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Game Birds Killed By Cats.

Perhaps the game bird most commonly killed by the cat in southern New England is the bobwhite. This species, one of the most useful of all birds to the farmer, highly valued as a game bird, frequents grass fields, gardens, grain fields, and weed and bush thickets where the cat hunts. Sportsmen say that they very often find cats in "quail covers," and not infrequently see them with the birds in their mouths.

=

Fond of Pheasants and Partridges.

Since the introduced ring-necked pheasant has become common in Massachusetts, many reports of the killing of these birds by cats have been received. They are taken from the time the chicks are hatched until they are full-grown.

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The Cat on the Game Preserve.

All experienced gamekeepers regard this animal as one of the most vicious and despicable of the so-called vermin which often render the raising of game bird a precarious calling. Prof. Clifton F. Hodge, a pioneer in the successful artificial rearing of grouse and bobwhites, was almost forced by cats to give up his experiments in Worcester, Mass.

=

A Day's Work.

Female cats with kittens often are very destructive to birds. I have known such a cat in June to destroy within twenty-four hours the young in six nests and also two of the parent birds, but this is the maximum.

=

Also Fond of Chickens.

Mr. Charles M. Field of Shrewsbury, has known a cat to kill eighteen chicks in

a day. Mr. Frederick W. Goodwin of East Boston, gives a record of twenty-four killed by a cat in one day. Miss Mabel McRae, Boylston, has a record

of twenty-five. Mr. A. B. Brundage, of Danbury, Conn., tells of thirty-four as a day's work for one lusty cat.

(To be continued in our next.)

A TRAPSHOOTING SCHOOL.

By GEORGE FRANK LORD.

The mere mention of a trapshooting school will cause sportsmen to sit up and take notice, as the saying goes, for while there have been and still are places where tennis, golf and other sports are taught novices, this country has never boasted anything in the form of a shooting school. Anticipating the many queries which will follow the announcement of the starting of the trapshooting school, E. I. duPont de Nemours & Co. send out the following information concerning same:

The school will be operated at Atlantic City, N. J., the greatest year round pleasure resort in the world, and a place annually visited by more sportsmen than any other city. The convenience of the sportsmen has been considered in determining the location of the school, which will be right in the center of activities, on Young's Million Dollar Pier, at the end.

The purpose of this new shooting school is threefold, viz., to teach the proper care and use of firearms; to instruct men and women in the art of trapshooting, and to provide a place where the thousands and thousands of "gun bugs" who yearly visit Atlantic City may enjoy their favorite sport, engage in trophy contests, team races, etc., in a place easily accessible and at a moderate cost.

The school will be in operation about March 15th, or by April 1st at the outside. The equipment will consist of one Ideal Leggett, and one Western McCrea automatic trap, standard targets being used, twenty gauge guns of practically every make, and competent men in charge. The targets will be thrown

against a background of water, targets and shot falling into the Atlantic Ocean. Standard trap loads will be on sale, but only twenty gauges may be used. The targets will be thrown about forty yards. A person desiring to use his own gun may do so, but only factory loaded ammunition can be shot on the range.

The services of Henry Hewgill Stevens, famous professional and known to everyone in the trapshooting game as "Hank," have been secured and he will be in charge of the school as manager, and will act as personal instructor at no cost whatever to anyone desiring his services. Mr. Stevens has been shooting since 1888, and nearly thirty years ago competed on the trapshooting team of Rutgers College, of which he is a graduate, against the Princeton, Yale and other college teams. In the year 1903 Mr. Stevens turned professional going first with the DuPont Powder Company and later representing one of the leading Eastern gun and ammunition manufacturers, traveling for them in practically every section of the country. He is now back with his first employers.

Mr. Stevens is well equipped by personality, experience and ability to fill his new position. He has made for himself a host of friends everywhere, who will always remember him as the genial "Hank." One of the original Westy Hogans, he has done much to insure the present success of that organization. His experience covers every phase of the gun and ammunition game, and all kinds of game shooting as well as trapshooting. It may be well to say also that he coached the 1913 Princeton College trapshooting team, which won the intercollegiate

trapshooting contest, and also the 1915 Yale College trapshooting team, which won the championship last year. When Mr. Stevens' ability as a shooter comes up, one has but to refer to the official trapshooting records for the past several years to appreciate his true worth, and men who have shot with him in the field and from the blinds and shooting boxes will tell you that his aim is deadly—in fact he seldom misses.

In inaugurating this new school, the DuPont Company believes that it will prove a boon to every sportsman who visits Atlantic City, and will also fill a long felt want on the part of those who have desired to learn to shoot under the

tutelage of a competent instructor, such as Mr. Stevens. From time to time events will be arranged for groups of shooters who may be at the seaside resort, and team races and trophy events staged. Local shooters will also have events arranged for them, or may arrange their own events, and shoot them over the school traps. In fact, Mr. Stevens will see to it personally that everything possible is done to make the visit of sportsmen to Atlantic City as pleasant as possible, and sportsmen and sportswomen everywhere are extended a cordial invitation to call and see him at Young's Million Dollar Pier after March 15th.

MORE LEAD POISONING.

BY FRED D. HOYT.

This is written in response to Mr. W. L. Finley's article, "Lead Poisoned Mallards," in your January issue. And I



Stomach of a captive mallard which died on her nest the day she hatched her ducklings.

wish to congratulate Mr. Finley, whom I know personally, on his successful wild life pictures, which I had the pleasure of seeing at the University of California.

Mr. Finley is a thorough conservationist with no selfish ways—one of the many men and societies which responded to my appeal for help to get the compulsory teaching of bird life in the public schools of California, which I am very happy to say has become a law in this State.

While Mr. Finley has told you the condition in which the ducks were found, and touched briefly on other data, I will endeavor to quote a few facts, as I have studied them for the past twenty-five years. That the Mallard duck will eat anything that is solid, from a small gravel stone to a ten-penny nail, will be seen from the accompanying photograph. This is the stomach of a captive Mallard which died on her nest on the day that she hatched her clutch of ducklings. Just to show how strong is the tendency of nature to reproduce itself, this duck had been dying five weeks, and seemed only to wait until her eggs were hatched, as when I removed the stomach, which had at last been punctured by a three-inch steel nail, the inside cavity of the bird was filled with blood.

The stomach, which I have had preserved in a bottle for three years, and had photographed, contained eleven steel nails, from the size of a small brad, to

a spike fully three inches long, a number of cut nail heads, several tacks and small bits of iron. The gravel and acids of the stomach had worn the nails almost through in many places and sharpened them to needle points, as will be seen in the picture. This was not a case of poisoning, but death came from the hemorrhage after the nails had punctured the walls of the stomach.

I have examined a great number of ducks which I have killed and found dead on the marsh. In the stomach of one bird there was seventy-two chilled shot and a brass collar button in another, a small wood screw, a dozen shot and a piece of cast iron, all much worn. Of over thirty ducks which I have examined, all have contained from a few to a half ounce of shot. While I have examined many other species of duck,

only in the Mallard have I found these conditions.

To sum up the whole matter, I find that we do all our shooting on the same ponds, where the ducks are baited or fed. For lack of grit, the Mallard takes up from the bottom of our four-inch deep ponds everything that seems to answer the purpose of ginding material for its food, as in no places around San Francisco Bay or up the Sacramento or San Jauquin rivers where shooting is done, is there any gravel; nothing but the soft marsh mud, which would run through a hundred mesh sieve like water.

Shooting, as we do, on these ponds where we feed, the Mallard with his long neck reaches down in the shallow water, readily picking up the shot lying on the mud, and this, as Mr. Finley has said, causes a lingering death either by starvation or poisoning.

GAME PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION.

Their Recent National Conference in This City.

By A. A. HILL.

A meeting of sportsmen, game commissioners and wardens was recently held at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in this city under the auspices of the Department of Game Breeding and Preserving of the American Game Protective Association. Papers were read on Game Preserving in America, by A. G. MacVicar, on "Breeding Wild Turkey," by Henry P. Bridges, and on "Deer and Elk Breeding," by John M. Philips. Lee S. Crandall reported on the "Breeding of Miscellaneous Species of Game."

A. G. MacVicar, head keeper of the Childs-Walcott Preserve in Connecticut, assailed the neglect of the native species of game birds in favor of the imported species. "It seems rather strange," he said, "that many people spend a lot of money and time in trying to establish foreign game without making any attempt to remedy the conditions that have so nearly exterminated the natives."

Quail, pheasants, ruffed grouse, duck, and some woodcock can be bred in New

England and in regions having similar physical features and climate, said Mr. MacVicar. To bring back these native birds to something like their former numbers, two things must be done: destroy the enemies of game by thorough and systematic trapping and increase the food supply.

Of the enemies of game house-cats and hawks are the most destructive. "An efficient gamekeeper," said Mr. MacVicar, "will take as much pains to trap a predatory cat in June as a fur trapper will to trap a nine-dollar fox in January. The wandering cat does more damage among birds than all other vermin combined."

"Food," he continued, "can be supplied at small expense by sowing patches of buckwheat, millet, brown corn, and kafir corn. The latter is available in snow, as the stiff stalk keeps the grain above the snow, and therefore where the birds can get it. These food patches should always be as near cover as possible and in a sheltered location. Barberries,

which grow readily in New England, are also valuable food, and can be used to feed pheasants, quail and grouse."

John M. Phillips spoke of conservation of game, especially as it is practised in Pennsylvania. In that state, a million acres have been set aside in twenty-six counties for a state game preserve, he said. Sanctuaries of 3,200 acres each are established in the center of tracts of state land, protected by fire cuttings and cared for by a warden who traps vermin and prepares food for game. Pennsylvania is the only state that protects the black bear, and last year between 300 and 400 were killed there.

The work of breeding and protecting deer in Pennsylvania has resulted in such an increase that between 2,000 and 2,500 bucks were killed this year. The average weight of deer killed has increased from 90 pounds ten years ago to 140 pounds, the increase being due to the protection accorded fawns and does.

The report of E. A. Quarles, director of the Propagation Department of Game Breeding of the Protection Association, was listened to with interest. Ruffed grouse, ringnecked pheasants and mallards, Dr. George W. Field, Dr. Charles C. Adams, Mr. Quarles and Adam Scott.

At the dinner, in the evening, George D. Pratt, Conservation Commissioner of New York, spoke on "What New York is Doing for Conservation." H. S. Graves, United States Forester, talked on "Game Conservation on Public Lands with Special Reference to Elk," and the other speakers were Norman McClintock, Dr. Allen A. Allen, of Cornell University, and William L. Finley, State Biologist of Oregon.

The proposal that New York State be called upon to permit the importation of wild ducks and other game bred in captivity in other states almost brought to a sudden end the second day's session. The matter touched upon has caused much dissension in the past. The New York State laws now prohibit such importation. A firm recently was fined \$20,000 for selling wild ducks alleged to have been bred and raised near Goshen, but which really were said to have been trapped in Virginia.

The subject was introduced by John W. Titcomb, Conservation Commissioner of Vermont. He proposed that the association go on record for the change in the New York State Game laws respecting importations. His resolution gave some of the New York members a shock.

William B. Boulton, chairman, finally calmed the meeting by appointing the following committee to consider the resolution: H. M. Brigham, of New York, chairman; J. W. Titcomb, John Haywood, of Massachusetts; J. B. Burnham and J. C. O'Connor, both of New York State. The committee will report at the next annual meeting, if they don't forget it.

Game Cookery.

Game, being rich in phosphates, is valuable for invalids.—The Boston Cook Book.

English and other cook books are filled with valuable recipes for cooking all species of game. American books on cooking for the most part contain little or nothing on this subject because we have no game to cook. America should have more game in its markets than any country in the world. We still have enough stock birds and quadrupeds to fill the markets to overflowing in five years provided the industry of game breeding be encouraged and not prohibited by law.

We predict that new revised editions of the American books will contain many valuable chapters on the cooking of quail, grouse, wild-fowl, snipe, woodcock and venison and we are so sure that America quickly will become the biggest game producing country in the world, that we would suggest to the publishers, the desirability of such chapters. The game law industry has seen its best days. The game breeding industry is booming. Many states already have amended their laws so that it is no longer criminal to profitably produce the desirable foods which are valuable for people in good health as well as for invalids.

We shall publish from time to time good recipes for cooking game and game fish.

A FAIR AMENDMENT.

A bill to amend the nonsensical N. Y. Conservation law (popularly known as one of the leading, "Fool Laws," as the newspapers say), so as to permit the sale of deer, pheasants, and ducks from other States in the New York markets, has some chance at Albany we are told. The amendment is quite absurd, of course, and in harmony with the original "fool" enactment in that it permits only the importation and sale of the game which least needs the breeders' attention. It is a stride, however, in the right direction and we hope it will pass. It is better to kill nonsense piecemeal than not to kill it at all.

The following bill may be enacted in New York:

To Amend the New York Conservation Law.

"Section 377. Certain mammals and birds may be imported from without the State and sold. Any person engaged in the business of raising and selling domesticated American elk, whitetail deer, European red deer and fallow deer, roebuck, pheasants, mallard ducks and black ducks, or any of them, in a wholly enclosed preserve or entire island, of which he is the owner or lessee, under a breeder's law providing for the tagging of all preserve-bred game and otherwise similar in principle to the law of the State of New York in such case made and provided, may make application in writing to the commission for a permit to import such mammals or birds into the State of New York and sell the same. In the event that the commission shall be satisfied that the said mammals and birds are bred in captivity and are killed and tagged under a breeding law similar in principle to that of the State of New York, upon the payment of a fee of five dollars, together with such additional sum as the commissioner may determine to cover the necessary cost of inspection, the commission may in its discretion issue a revocable permit in writing to such applicant to import such mammals and birds raised as aforesaid into the State of New York and to sell the same, in which case the provisions of sections three hundred and seventy-two, three hundred and seventy-three and three hundred and seventy-four of the conservation law, in so far as the same are applicable, shall apply.

"Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately."

The question is on the passage of the bill. Shall the bill pass? The Game Breeder votes aye, because it is much better than nothing.

GAME EATING.

We especially like to eat quail, grouse and other game birds when we know that by so doing we are helping to make them plentiful and to keep them so.

The object of the game dinners of the Game Conservation Society is to make game eating fashionable; to restore some of the best American foods to the table.

We have no doubt the society will be in the market for cinnamon teal and other comparatively rare species in order to serve them as samples and to induce the people to buy and to eat the desirable foods liberally. Money has been abundant to secure game law absurdities. We see considerable in sight to secure more game for sport and for food.

The fight for "more game" having been won, in so far as the common half-bred mallards and pheasants are consumed in many States, and the laws having been amended so as to make it possible to produce other species in some States, it is high time that the eating of all species should be made not only fashionable but commonplace. The money used to purchase the food surely will find its way, under proper regulations, to the places where the food can be produced cheaply. "More game eating; more game," is our new and revised slogan. Incidentally, we can see a restoration of field sports; the breeding and sale of shooting dogs; the sale and use of guns and ammunition, etc., and a general good time. We observed editorially a few years ago, "there's a good time coming; its almost here."

Game Breeding Instruction.

A course in the breeding of game birds in captivity has been added to the zoology work of the Gary public schools system, in Gary, Ind. E. A. Spaulding, principal of the Emerson School of the Gary system, first suggested the idea. An appeal was made to Wallace Evans, of St. Charles, Ill., the large breeder of game birds, who agreed to supply the school with all the necessary stock to start breeding ringneck pheasants, mallard ducks and gray call ducks.

It is contended that the work of the



Young Mallards.

From Our Wild Fowl and Waders.

Gary schools will afford an opportunity for technical instruction along this branch of wild life conservation to boys and girls when their minds are in a particularly receptive condition to ideas of this sort. The experiment will be watched with interest by sportsmen and thousands of others who are interested in wild life conservation.

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A Fishy Yarn.

Capt. George W. Greenleaf, of the U. S. Fisheries Steamer Gannet, in "The Maine Woods": "The Gannet was out gathering cod eggs for the hatchery. Among the cods was one that didn't yield many eggs, although Dave Pennington squeezed her until she almost burst. Capt. Greenleaf thought there should be more eggs and took hold, with no better results. Wondering, he slit the fish open with a knife and took out a full-grown coot." Some doubt it, just as they doubt the story of Jonah.

A Worthy Apotheosis.

Henry P. Bridges, Baltimore, Md.: "The gorgeous colors of the wild turkey glisten in the sunshine like varnished bronze. His broad shoulders and deep chest and firm steps show that he is as hardy as an oak. He has a clean cut game head, jeweled with bright eyes. He is always on the lookout for trouble, and his suspicions make him the grandest American game bird for the hunter to stalk and get a shot at."

Crimes and criminal laws should not be made on junketing expeditions throughout the country after "conferences" with the prospective criminals, termed "hearings." Even if criminal laws must be thus made, the head of the construction group should not be a doctor of medicine. Give us someone who understands legal principles and we will stand a chance of having respectable laws and not criminal absurdities.

The Game Breeder

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

EDITED BY DWIGHT W. HUNTINGTON

NEW YORK, APRIL, 1916

TERMS:

10 Cents a Copy—\$1.00 a year in Advance.

Postage free to all subscribers in the United States.
To All Foreign Countries and Canada, \$1.25.

THE GAME CONSERVATION SOCIETY, INC.,
PUBLISHERS, 150 NASSAU ST., NEW YORK

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THREE CHEERS FOR KENTUCKY, ANOTHER "MORE GAME" STATE.

We are pleased to announce that the Kentucky bill referred to in our Survey of the Field, passed, as we predicted it would. It is now the law, and a very good one, it seems to us.

CALIFORNIA.

We had formed the opinion that the California Commission was in favor of game breeding and that there must be some mistake in the complaints coming to The Game Breeder from that state. We believe it will be an easy matter for California breeders to enlist the department in an effort to have the game permits issued at a nominal cost or for nothing, as they are in Massachusetts.

An important amendment should be enacted, also, in California, as elsewhere, permitting breeders to trap game birds for propagation purposes. It is perfectly absurd to issue a license to every one to destroy a certain number of birds daily and to refuse to permit breeders to take a similar number of birds alive for the purpose of multiplying their numbers for sport and for profit. There is a shortage of stock birds, and this must continue until it is legal to trap them for the purpose of propagating as freely as it now is to shoot for the purpose of destroying.

LET US BREED ALL SPECIES.

Often we have pointed out the absurdity of granting to breeders the right to look after the foreign birds which are in no danger of being extirpated anywhere and of denying the right to look after our indigenous grouse quail and other game which rapidly are being exterminated. Many states now permit the breeding of all species and New York appears to be quite behind the times.

WHY?

A few out of town game breeders who called at the office of the Game Conservation Society after the meeting of the American Protective Association, seemed to be much disappointed at the action of the Association in sending to a committee Mr. Titcomb's proposition to permit the breeders of other states to sell their game in New York, just as English, French and other foreign breeders do. As we understand the matter, the resolution was sent to a committee after the chairman had referred to it as a "bomb," and the committee was given a year to report. A western breeder said this, of course, was intended to kill the proposition.

We fail to understand why the American Association persists, as it did last year, in keeping the Association a purely local affair. We have thousands of breeders in other states who should have as much right in New York as foreigners have, and, as we have pointed out before, New York can not be popular with the other states so long as it sends hundreds of thousands of dollars abroad annually for game and refuses to permit our readers to get the good prices for the food they produce.

We regret much that we did not see Mr. Titcomb when he was in New York. He is one of the best state game officers in the United States, and we are told that he said Vermont could (and would, if permitted) send a lot of venison and game birds, properly identified, to the New York market, and that this would result in a much larger production of game than there is at present.

We still hope the legislature will show

some common sense in dealing with this matter and we hope if it don't the next one will have a different political complexion. The people in New York who would like to eat the abundant game produced by our readers and who will willingly pay good prices for it should take notice that their representatives at Albany are being advised not to let them eat most desirable foods produced throughout the country and to compel them to dine almost exclusively on cold storage game from abroad—nonsense! Nonsense! Rampant!

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Game Breeder:

Your paper is fine.

Massachusetts. A. S. PIERCE.

A Good Sign.

Game Breeder:

Inclosed I send money for advertisement. I find some of your advertisers don't have what they advertise.

Michigan. A. S. COOPER.

[Several of our readers have written that they found our advertisers were sold out. This is a good sign. Many advertisers have written us to say that they were well pleased with this result. Some, in ordering their advertising discontinued, say that they do not wish to answer letters simply to say they have nothing more to sell. The game breeding industry certainly is booming.—Editor Game Breeder.]

California Tight? Too Bad! Too Bad!

Editor Game Breeder:

Aside from the pheasants this is one of the tightest States in the United States. We have no right to a place among the game-farming States.

California. G. E. D.

[The rapidity with which subscribers to The Game Breeder have been coming and also some unsolicited advertisements led us to believe that California was quite a good State for the game breeder's industry. If the State game officers are guilty of any attempts to strangle a food producing industry the fact should be generally known. We will help investigate this subject; all readers should help. If there is any wrongdoing, bouncing is the remedy, no matter what the politics of the commissioners are. We don't know what they are. We don't care what they are. There are certain agricultural interests and certain trade interests, including the hotel men's organizations and

some others which take an interest in food producing and when the word is quietly passed by organized game breeders we are sure quite a few people will vote right. Let us always be sure we are right and then move rapidly.—Editor.]

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Pheasant Breeders' Law Works Well.

Editor Game Breeder:

Our pheasant breeders' law seems to be working satisfactorily although we will be in a better position to speak authoritatively regarding it after the season closes. As you will note it is quite broad since it authorizes the licensee or any person having his consent to kill birds when ready for marketing. Informally the term propagation has been interpreted to mean that land owners or lessees who have protected and cared for the birds to such extent as to insure safety and increase are propagating within the spirit of the law at least. I am inclined to think it will work satisfactorily and become popular, affording opportunity for some shooting.

JOHN C. SPEAKS,

Chief Game Warden, Ohio.

[Duck breeding, quail breeding and laws encouraging the breeding of all species work well in States where they have been tried. There are, however, comparatively few places where it is legal to sell the quail and grouse and the breeders can not supply stock birds, being sold far ahead and having long waiting lists. Ohio is a good State for prairie grouse, quail ruffed grouse and wild turkeys. It should not be criminal to produce these.—Editor.]

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Editor Game Breeder:

We have issued no licenses in this Province for the breeding of game birds and animals, for the very good reason that our system of protection is such, that the game supply is well maintained on the natural breeding grounds of our game birds as well as our fish and birds. Moreover, the Government of the Dominion maintains a certain number of fish hatcheries in this Province.

We may issue licenses very shortly for the farming of deer, not because this game is becoming any scarcer, but in order to increase if possible the market supply of venison and so to assist in reducing the cost of living.

The only permits for breeding pur-

poses which we have issued as yet are for the raising in captivity of foxes and other fur-bearing animals.

I send you by this mail a copy of a booklet which I wrote some time ago on this subject and also a copy of the last annual report of this Department.

E. T. D. CHAMBERS.

Quebec, Canada.

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Editor Game Breeder:

I heard considerable shooting, mostly black powder, yesterday morning and evening, and again this morning, and I feel certain it was at ducks, as quite a lot of black and wood ducks were hatched in ponds near here. I have advocated the abolition of spring shooting for forty years, but now the Federal authorities have cut off a month of our season when ducks were growing more abundant every year; then they fail utterly to enforce the law, thus permitting the ignorant and lawless to shoot while the intelligent (as to game laws) and law-abiding get left.

The farmers not being permitted to sell, trespassers making life unpleasant, even dangerous, it is to their advantage to permit as little game to breed as possible; to have as little cover and food as possible.

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A Letter From the Dean.

Charles Hallock, writing from Washington, D. C., to express his regrets at not being able to attend the dinner of The Game Conservation Society, predicts that the game breeders soon will be numbered by the hundred thousand, "now that the more game campaign seems to have won with flying banners." The dean pointed out the mountains of politics and prejudice we would have to cross, in an interesting letter, when he endorsed the movement at the start and American sportsmen, who wish to see field sports perpetuated, are much indebted to Hallock, as we often have pointed out.

GOOD WORK.

We thought so well of Mr. Job's book, "The Propagation of Wild Birds," that

we sent out about 2,500 special letters to members of the Game Conservation Society and clubs associated with it in the good work of producing "more game." This is something the Game Conservation Society never has done before except for its own publications and we are pleased to observe that our members have purchased many copies of the book.

Mr. Job is the head of a new department of the National Association of Audubon Societies which takes a great interest in game preserving and the amendment of the game laws so as to encourage this profitable production of the wild food birds.

A Good Book.

The National Association of Audubon Societies has sent us an attractive little book on "How to Attract and Protect Wild Birds," written by Martin Hiesemann and translated by Emma S. Buchheim.

This is an excellent book describing the system of Baron Von Berlepsch, who applied the gamekeepers' methods (of preserving game birds by the destruction of their enemies providing plantations and covers for nesting and food) to all useful birds with great success. The book is illustrated with pictures of shelters, bird houses, etc. We can send it upon receipt of the price—50 cents. Postage, 6 cents.

Venison for the Market.

Venison is sold in the markets of Maine and some other States. Venison produced in New York is sold in the New York markets. Venison from foreign countries is sold in New York, but venison from Maine, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Vermont and all the other States which have an abundance of venison can not be sold in New York.

Many members of The Game Conservation Society outside of New York now have hundreds of elk and deer but they cannot market their food in the best market, New York City. We invite the attention of The New York Conservation Commissioner and the Legislature

to the absurd and outrageous situation. How long will the State Conservation Commissioner be compelled to administer nonsense? Should a State game officer be compelled to prevent the industrious producers of food in other States from feeding the people of New York? Should hundreds of thousands of dollars be sent abroad annually for game when American game farmers in other States are ready to supply the food?

What has become of the provision in the United States Constitution which says the citizens of the several States shall have the same privileges and immunities? How about this, Mr. Game Conservation Commissioner?

The Partridge as a Fighter.

Editor Outdoor Life:

Last fall while hunting deer I was waiting at the edge of a small clearing for a buck to appear when I noticed a male partridge coming towards me. He did not notice me till I moved; then he seemed to get mad and ruffled up his feathers and, clucking, came towards me showing fight. To see what his real intentions were I started to move away, and, evidently thinking he had me bluffed he ran after me and chased me for about thirty yards, clucking viciously all the while. Then believing that he had run me off, he went into the thick underbrush.—A. A. Thomas, Minnesota, in Outdoor Life.

CRABS.

Crab life in Delaware will be conserved, if Daniel Burton, formerly deputy collector of internal revenue can have his way. He has pointed out that every year there is in that State a shameful waste of crab life and that it is doing great financial injury, especially to communities which border upon the leading crab-producing waters. The same trouble is being experienced in Virginia. In this last named State the legislature is asked to pass a law looking to the protection of the egg-bearing mother, by providing a closed season for the sponge crab, and of the small hard crab by re-

quiring that all such crabs under five inches from tip of spike to tip of spike be thrown back in the water.

PINIONING.

When birds are only a few weeks old they are easily pinioned by cutting off the last joint of one wing. A thread should be tied above the cut to prevent the loss of blood. When the birds are old the ligature should be made with care since there will be a greater loss of blood if the work is not properly done. Mr. Job well says one had better see it done by an experienced person before attempting it.

There is much land which can be bought for a few dollars in Rhode Island but it is dear at any price under existing laws. Similar lands can be purchased in Massachusetts for similar prices and they are worth ten times as much because there is more freedom in Massachusetts than there is in Rhode Island. We would advise Rhode Island farmers either to move or to have the laws, which provide for arrests for food producing amended.

Birds May Not Be Brought Into This State from the South.

To the Editor of The New York Times:

Under the State conservation law (formerly known as the forest, fish and game law) the open season for the taking of all game birds, such as quail, pheasants, grouse and partridge, closed on Dec. 31, 1915, with the exception of wild ducks, on which the season is open for the taking until Jan. 10, 1916, with possession until Jan. 15, 1916.

It appears, however, that the season is open in many of the Southern States—North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia—where quail, grouse, partridge, pheasants and wild turkeys may be taken up to March 15. Many of the residents of this city are now going down on shooting trips, and are bringing back to this State the species of game on which our season is closed. The result has been

that our game protectors have had to seize the game thus brought into this State, in addition to which the party bringing the game into this State is guilty of a violation of the State law for having such birds in his possession during our closed season.

There is no possible way in which to bring into this State any of the game birds on which our season is closed at the present time, even though it is lawful to kill and export the same in the State where taken. Already many prominent people of this city have settled with the Conservation Commission for violation of this provision of our law.

The legality of this law has been upheld by a case which was carried to the Supreme Court of the United States—Hasterberg vs. Silz, 211, U. S., 31.

It will, therefore, behoove every one going South to understand that no game birds can be brought into this State at the present time on which our season is closed. In the case of ducks, geese and brant, the same prohibition will apply after Jan. 10, 1916.

Under the law game seized is presented to various public institutions, and already donations have been made to the Presbyterian Hospital, Roosevelt Hospital, Polyclinic Hospital, Ophthalmic Hospital, Salvation Army, Lincoln Hospital, Volunteer Hospital, St. John's Home, St. Malachy's Home, and as further game is seized it will be distributed to other institutions.

EDMUND GALLAGHER,
Division Chief.

OUTINGS AND INNINGS.

Two suburban gardeners were swearing vengeance on cats. "It appears to me," one said, "that they seem to pick out your choicest plants to scratch out of the ground." "There's a big yellow tomcat," the other said, "that fetches my plants out and then sits and actually defies me." "Why don't you hurl a brick at him?" asked the first speaker. "That's what makes me mad," was the reply. "I can't. He gets on top of my greenhouse to defy me."—Kansas City Star.

The young son of the family, who had been out to luncheon at a little friend's house, was asked by his mother on his return whether he had been a good boy. He hesitated a moment, then answered, "Yes."

"You don't seem to be very sure about the matter," said the mother.

"What did you do?"

"Oh, I just spilled my chop in my lap," he replied.

"Did you apologize to Mrs. Brown?"

"Yes," he nodded.

"Tell mother what you said when you apologized."

"Oh," came the quick response, "I said, 'Excuse me, but that's what always happen to tough meat.'"

We placed several good keepers in positions recently and have good reports about them. Good men are getting scarce as the game breeding industry grows.

Chauncey Thomas, in *Outdoor Life*, says: "The Dardanelles is the only place in the world where a strait beats four kings."

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THE NEW YORK TIMES



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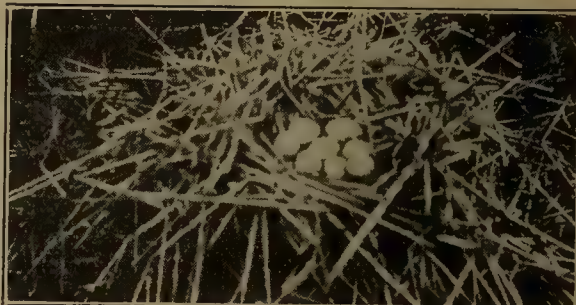
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THE GAME BREEDER

VOL. IX.

MAY, 1916

No. 2

THE OBJECT OF THIS MAGAZINE IS
TO MAKE NORTH AMERICA THE BIGGEST
GAME PRODUCING COUNTRY IN THE WORLD



A FAIR HATCH—2,500 YOUNG MALLARDS FROM 170 STOCK BIRDS.

James Edgar, Gamekeeper

C.

PUBLISHED BY
THE GAME CONSERVATION SOCIETY, Inc.
NEW YORK CITY U.S.A.

C.B. DAVIS - 25

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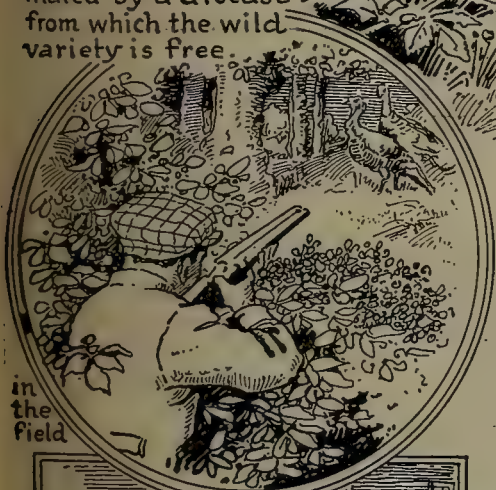
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in
the
field



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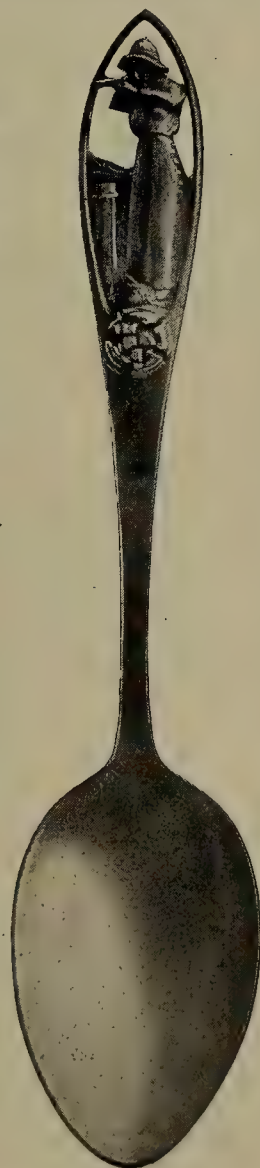
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The Game Breeder

Published Monthly. Entered as second-class matter, July 9, 1915, at the Post Office, New York City, New York, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

VOLUME IX

MAY, 1916

NUMBER 2



SURVEY OF THE FIELD.

An Open Market.

The New York market is now open to sale of certain game produced by game breeders in the other States. It is a pity that only a few common species can come in but soon we will give the quail grouse and other game the same benefits now extended to pheasants, ducks and deer.

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Get Busy.

Game breeders in all of the States should get busy. Game brings splendid prices in New York and there is a big demand. We shall publish market reports and prices from time to time and always we are glad to give our many readers information as to how and where to sell the game they produce.

Game Breeding Clubs.

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Game Breeding Clubs, composed of sportsmen of moderate means, now can be safely organized everywhere. The sale of part of the game can be made to pay all or a good part of the running expenses. Our advice is to breed far more than you can possibly eat and to shoot some big bags for the people to eat at excellent prices. You can make the people friendly to sport and pay your running expenses. We hope some clubs will declare cash dividends.

Massachusetts.

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The Massachusetts Commissioners have issued another very good Report—as usual. It opens with the statement: "Attention is again called to the peculiarly favorable opportunities for intensive utilization of latent food-producing resources. It is reasonable to state that few departments of government reach so directly and intimately the vital inter-

ests of all the people as does the department of fisheries and game, not alone as stimulating recreative and health-producing sports, but even more by assisting in the annual production of important food. Fresh-water fish, birds and game are peculiarly responsive to correct methods of artificial propagation. Similarly, methods for increasing production must be applied to the salt-water fisheries and other natural resources of the commonwealth."

The Massachusetts Commission long has been right in its ideas that all of the people should have game and fish to eat and there is abundant evidence in the report that the Commission still believes in the encouragement of game and fish breeding for sport and for profit. Many State game officers can learn much from Massachusetts.

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Behind the Times.

California Fish and Game, describing the work of one of our members, Mr. Charles Shaw, who is rearing wild ducks on the Briggs ranch, says: "For many years past the preserves of Great Britain have reared thousands of wild fowl and used them to augment shooting, but little has been done in this direction in the United States."

This is quite an error. Wonders have been performed in the United States. Many clubs now have thousands of hand-reared ducks and some of our members who have their own duck plants in other States had many ducks for sale last year and were disgusted because they could only get 50 cents each for them in the local markets, while New York breeders were getting \$3.00 and even \$4.00 a brace for all the ducks they

wished to market. The writer reared one season several years ago, over 2,500 mallards from 170 stock birds. These ducks were kept in a small inclosure surrounding an artificial pond. Members of the Game Conservation Society now sell hundreds of thousands of wild eggs every season and this year many thousands of eggs will be shipped to California and other Western States.

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Another Error.

It is an error also to say, "for many years past the preserves of Great Britain have reared thousands of wild fowl and used them to augment shooting." Pheasants have been reared for many years but it is not so very long since it was believed to be impossible to rear wild ducks in England on account of their wildness and migratory habits. Now, however, nearly every country place in England has an abundance of wild ducks; the people have plenty to eat and the prices are low. Hundreds of thousands, probably millions, of eggs are sold, the price usually being £2 per hundred. All these facts and others are fully recited in the book, "Our Wild Fowl and Waders," published by the Game Conservation Society, price \$1.50. We will send this book to California Fish and Game for educational purposes and for review, upon request—without charge, of course. The Society has a small fund for educational purposes and delights in promoting duck breeding and all other kinds of game breeding.

A number of our California readers, besides Mr. Shaw, now have wild ducks. One reports a good sale of eggs under a permit from the Commission promptly issued. There have been some complaints that it took so long to get a permit that the eggs spoiled before they could be moved. This, if true, is as bad as holding quails until they become diseased and then deciding that they can not be imported.

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The "Mile High."

The Rocky Mountain News says:

Not long since we commended an Illinois gun club for giving up spring shooting and recognizing the provisions of the federal law

that is in dispute in the courts. Coming nearer home we take pleasure in congratulating the Mile High Gun Club of Denver for going still further and taking steps for the protection and propagation of wild life by limiting the shooting season and creating preserves for birds and hatcheries for trout within its grounds.

"There is a public sentiment that is greater than laws," said Secretary Cliff Webb of the club in explaining that organization's position. Certainly without public sentiment behind it a statute is like a blank cartridge. This club is not taking advantage of the law's delay on the federal migratory bird law and shooting in the spring at a time when it is more easy to decoy the birds, and, should the law be declared invalid, it would make no difference to this organization. Killing game in the spring time, law or no law, is contrary to nature and would soon result in extermination.

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Echo Answers Why?

Mr. Cliff Webb, one of the pioneer sportsmen of Colorado, says:

"I believe it can be said with justice that the sportsmen of Colorado are desirous of seeing the enforcement of any laws which will really protect the game, but it must be remembered that Colorado has been in a peculiar position. Why should it be possible for a rancher whose land is partly in Wyoming and partly in Colorado to fish all the year round on his Wyoming land, while just across the Colorado line he cannot cast a fly before May 25 and not fish after October 31?

"We permit dove shooting fifteen days in Colorado, while across the line in New Mexico I believe there is a dove season of sixty days, and it was not so long ago that there was no closed season at all on doves. I have been in Durango when Colorado sportsmen could not hunt ducks, yet we could drop across the New Mexico line and have all the duck shooting we wanted. Colorado should have better game laws, and it should have uniform laws with New Mexico and Wyoming."

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Game in the National Forests.

Since the national forests take in practically all the wildest parts of the Rocky Mountains it follows naturally that there is excellent sport to be had in many of them.

The descriptive folder of the Routt

National Forest in Colorado says: "In all these mountains bear, deer, elk, mountain sheep, and grouse are to be found and most of the streams afford excellent trout fishing." It then gives a synopsis of the State game laws and makes the following plea to the public, to whom the use of the forest is so freely extended: "Please assist the forest service and the State of Colorado in protecting game by not burning up their shelter through leaving your camp-fire unextinguished; and leave the condition of your camp so that it will not pollute the streams which have been stocked for your pleasure, at great expense and under trying circumstances, by the government and State."—March "Outing."

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Fishing Licenses.

The attitude of all the forest, fish and game associations and rod and gun clubs in New York State on the proposal of the conservation commission that a fishing license law be enacted is to be taken, according to a letter just mailed by Conservation Commissioner George D. Pratt to the officers of these associations. The letter also asks for the sense of the associations regarding the proposal that each holder of a hunting and fishing license wear upon his clothing, at all times when hunting or fishing, a button bearing the number of his license.

As we go to press we are informed that the salt water fishermen succeeded in defeating the bill to license anglers.

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Calling Out the Troops.

For the first time since the "more game" movement was started it is deemed necessary to call out the troops for a war against the game; war has been declared on the deer. The following is the story as it appeared in the World, New York.:

Shelter Island (N. Y.) will be the scene of a hunting party next Monday, when twenty-seven National Guardsmen will begin the slaughter of all the deer on the island. The killing has been ordered by State Conservation Commissioner George D. Pratt because deer have become a nuisance to the farmers, having eaten up many acres of produce.

Suffolk County sportsmen are angry at the proposed slaughter of the 200 deer and will

enter a vigorous protest at Abany. But it is likely their objections will fall on deaf ears, as the question underwent long consideration before official action was taken.

The deer were brought to the island many years ago by S. M. Smith, "the Borax King," and kept on his private preserve. A few escaped and the number has increased greatly.

The slaughtered deer will be shipped to the State hospitals for the insane.

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Wrong Deer Slaughter.

Under the above heading the New York Press says:

The Conservation Commission does not live up to its name when it gives orders to exterminate all the deer on Shelter Island. The fact that the venison will be sent to Brooklyn hospitals and charitable institutions is no recompense for the ruthless slaughter scheduled.

At the present time the Conservation Commission is putting forth great efforts to restock the Adirondacks with elk, an animal which in our grandfathers' day furnished noble sport and called many men to a season out of doors. Deer are not a pest in the Adirondacks.

We published not long ago an excellent article about how the California Elk which were doing a lot of damage were trapped and distributed to people who wanted the animals and to public parks where the only damage they might do would fall on the private or public owners of the Elk.

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Several contentions of The Game Breeder are emphasized by the calling out of the State troops to destroy the game on Shelter Island, N. Y.

We have often said it is an easy matter to have "more game." We have even pointed out places where quails were over abundant, where they eat too many grapes, and places where game keepers decided to "thin them out" (the bobwhites) after several thousands had been shot for sport and for food.

We have said repeatedly that the State should not pasture State animals in the farmers' orchards and fields, to his irreparable damage, in order to be able to afford targets for \$1.00 licensed trespassers. We have said often that the State can not make public play-grounds of country lawns, gardens, grain fields, and pastures, and expect the owners to keep up a head of game as an inducement for all classes of sportsmen, re-

sponsible and irresponsible, to shoot the game, the poultry, the farm animals or even human beings. We have said often the farmer who wants deer or other game should have them, stand the damage they do and sell the meat.

It will be a remarkable spectacle if the program for the war on the deer on Shelter Island is carried out. We can picture a State Conservation Commissioner, mounted on a war horse, with drawn sword, charging the deer at the head of his troops. The plan of battle, as it is outlined in the daily papers, contemplates avoiding any close encounters with the antlered herd until the deer are in full retreat and have been driven to the edge of the island where the blue waters of Long Island Sound are too wide and too deep to give any chance for the escape of the enemy. Here the infantry are expected to close in and by volley firing to make the annihilation complete. Fathers and mothers, the last named pregnant with young, are all to die together at the hands of Conservationists and the allied militia. We never thought the "more game" movement would lead to this. A change of the name of the Game Conservation Society, publishers of The Game Breeder, is contemplated.

=

A Better Way.

There clearly is a better way of handling deer than to shoot them all down in the spring time. The State of New York has a big public play-ground where, at certain seasons, sportsmen are permitted to shoot the deer, and each other, to their heart's content, that is provided the heart is contented with one or two deer. The fray for most individuals usually ends for the season with the death of one sportsman shot down because he looked like a deer.

The Shelter Island deer and the deer in other farming regions, where they are regarded as a nuisance, should be trapped and turned down in the Adirondacks where they will thrive until the time for the venison harvest arrives.

Massachusetts has a good rule. Any farmer who is damaged by deer puts in a claim and the State pays for the dam-

age. He raises his crop, and in places where deer occur in fair numbers, he has a sure customer at a fair price.

Vermont has a somewhat similar law, we believe, and the fusilade on the farms, when the wild meat season is open, is said to be lively. We never heard if the little yellow horse dropped in the shafts or the colt killed by a stray bullet just after he had been put in a barn to escape the dangers of the battle were paid for. They should be, of course, if public sport is expected to remain popular.

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A Pot Shot at Deer.

About the year 1730, John Rider of Plymouth killed three deer at a shot in that town. It was in a summer season, in a rye field * * * It was out of season by law to kill deer. The Superior Court, then in session in that town, excused the man on the spot, it being in protection of his standing grain.—*Collections of Massachusetts Historical Society*, cited in Report of the Massachusetts Commissioners of Fish and Game.

This was clearly a case of justifiable cervicide and courts would do well to follow the precedent when boys are brought in for defending cabbage-patches from rabbits.

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One on the Editor.

Owing to the unavoidable absence of the Editor last month, Mr. Hill, the Vice President of the Game Conservation Society, took charge of the magazine. One of the readers said to the Editor a few days ago that he thought the April number was one of the best ever issued. The Editor agreed with him.

P. S.—As we go to press we learn that the battle with the deer has been called off. Sportsmen have arranged to have them trapped and shipped to private game preserves, the proper place for such animals when found outside of public parks.

—◆—

Subscribe for The Game Breeder, only \$1 a year.

QUAIL PRESERVING.

WILD BREEDING METHODS.

By D. W. HUNTINGTON.

The best methods for rearing quail abundantly both for sport and for profit are the methods which have been used to make the gray partridges plentiful in Great Britain and on the Continent of Europe. By far the best and the cheapest shooting which American sportsmen can undertake is quail shooting on the farms, which are for the most part posted against all shooting. The area of the posted farms which are suitable for quail preservation is tremendous and since the number of farms which are posted is increasing, and since the tendency of our legislation rapidly is in the direction of prohibiting quail shooting for terms of years or at all times, there should be no possible prejudice against the inexpensive clubs or syndicates of sportsmen who arrange with the landowners to produce quail for shooting on the farms. Large numbers of these birds should be marketed every season to pay the cost of production.

It was the fashion a few years ago for shooting clubs to rent the shooting rights on a number of farms and to purchase and liberate a lot of quail every season. I have purchased quail for such clubs when it was legal to trap and sell birds in some of the States, but since nothing was done in the way of game preserving, the foxes and other vermin took a good part of the purchased stock and the sportsmen shot what was left and relied upon the purchase of new birds each season in order to keep up some indifferent shooting. I have been told some remarkable stories by superintendents of clubs about the evident destruction of birds by foxes and other vermin after the quail were liberated, and, of course, the system was entirely wrong. It simply amounted to trapping live birds in Kansas, Oklahoma, North Carolina and the other States and turning the birds down at the Wyandangh, the Long Island Country Club, the Nitany, or

some of the many other clubs, to feed vermin and to provide some fair shooting, possibly for one year, and very little thereafter. It was necessary to purchase birds every season. The quail were trapped in one State to be exterminated in another. State game departments also were engaged in the same folly, and often I have thought that a capable game officer of a Southern State was absolutely right when he refused to grant a permit, as he had the right to do, to a State officer in a State where the quail had become scarce, to purchase a lot of quail and move them to places where a sure extermination awaited them.

The secret of success in quail breeding consists in making the ground safe and attractive. Ground is made safe when the numerous natural enemies of the game are controlled, and when no dogs, cats, rats or poachers are permitted to destroy the eggs or birds. On suitable ground the quail quickly will become tremendously abundant and remain so, although thousands be shot every season. The guns simply take the birds which vermin would have taken in the absence of beat-keepers.

Ground is made attractive by making suitable nesting sites and safe small covers at frequent intervals. In the good old days of quail abundance many fields were enclosed with rail fences, the angles of which were full of grass, weeds and briars. The woods, also, contained much undergrowth, brush and briars; there was plenty of berries, sumacs, wild roses, and many other natural foods for the quail, and numerous covers for the birds where ground and winged vermin found it difficult or impossible to destroy them.

All sportsmen know that a freshly plowed field, a meadow, a pasture and all other fields surrounded by wire fences and entirely devoid of cover and natural foods, and open woodlands, containing

no brush or briars, will not harbor any quail. No one would think of running dogs over vast areas laid down in grass or planted in fall wheat, or over any naked fields without food or cover, even at the fences. Some of my favorite quail grounds have been made absolutely uninhabitable by reason of the introduction of wire fences, without food or cover, about fields such as I have referred to. All such places, however, can be made to yield quail abundantly provided small areas of quail foods be planted and patches of berry-briars, sumac and wild roses be made to shelter the covies and supply the necessary foods. A strip of ground planted especially for the birds, running either side of a wire fence, will make the field safe and attractive, and in large fields a quail garden might well be made in the center and enclosed with a large mesh chicken wire. The important foods for quail are berries and other fruits, sumac, wild roses, and various grains, especially wheat, buckwheat, and corn. A half acre planted here and there with these grains and bordered with blackberry briars, wild roses, sumac and some wild grasses and brush will make the most unattractive ground attractive and comparatively safe. A beat-keeper should be employed to persistently destroy the vermin on his beat, which should not exceed a thousand or twelve hundred acres, and he should be on hand in the winter to find and feed the birds during severe weather. A few artificial covers where the birds have grain and grit will save

them from climatic losses, but to keep up a good supply of birds the covers and foods should be made and kept plentiful and evenly distributed. Where there are small thickets these should be freed from vermin and a little grain should be planted and left standing near them. The ground used for covers and foods should be rented, of course, and the more foods and covers planted the better.

No one can be expected to breed quail or any other game or to provide the necessary foods and covers and to destroy the vermin in States where quail shooting is prohibited. While it undoubtedly is necessary in many States to stop the shooting, so long as no one looks after the game, all breeders should be excepted from such laws and given every encouragement to make the quail plentiful on farms which they own or which they rent for shooting or breeding purposes. As soon as it is legal for breeders to sell some of their game, the sale of a very little of it will pay all the expenses of a well-conducted shoot or preserve.

I know places where the quail have been made tremendously abundant, and where they are kept plentiful year after year, although thousands of birds are shot every season. There are no such places in the States where quail shooting is prohibited or where the seasons are very short and the bag limits very small, and where the lands are made more and more unsafe and more and more unattractive because they are closely cultivated and the natural covers and foods are destroyed.

PARTRIDGE SHOOTING IN HUNGARY.

BY CAPTAIN C. E. RADCLIFFE.

Probably there is no more extraordinary sight to the eyes of a shooting man than that which he sees on his first visit to one of the vast Hungarian estates on the fertile plains of that fine country, where the owner takes an interest in the preservation of his domains for par-

tridge shooting. The average head of game per acre is positively bewildering, even to those who are accustomed to the best estates in the eastern counties of England.

For the purpose of illustrating how the sport is carried on in Hungary, a few

notes will be given upon the shooting over an estate which can boast of being the finest natural partridge shooting in Hungary, and therefore the best in Europe.

About three hours' journey by train from Budapest, in the district of Nyitra-Megye, is situated the estate of Tot-Megyer, which is owned by Count Louis Karolyi, and here indeed is par excellence the home of the partridge. When speaking of this estate as the best natural shooting in Hungary, it is meant to distinguish it from other places in the country where a curious custom is sometimes adopted of buying large quantities of birds from other estates and turning them down on the ground to be shot a short time before shooting. By this means the extraordinary bag of 2,983 partridges in a day was killed in 1893 by a party of eight guns shooting over the estates of St. Johann, then owned by the late Baron Hirsch. Again, in 1894, at the same place, eight guns bagged 2,725 partridges in a day. The former of these two stands as a record for numbers in one day, but as it has been closely approached at Tot-Megyer, where none but bona fide wild birds are shot, the two can scarcely be compared.

The actual extent of Tot-Megyer estates is about 60,000 English acres, of which some 7,400 acres are coverts, and the remainder cultivated land. The crops which are cultivated chiefly consist of maize and various kinds of corn, with a certain quantity of mangolds and other roots. The land is so fertile and rich in natural food for partridges, that it is not difficult to see in the autumn how it is possible for it to carry such an immense head of game as it does. But the natural question which strikes the mind of a stranger is, how do all these partridges live in the severe winters when the ground is often a long while deep beneath the snow? The answer is, that in such cases vast quantities of wheat are strewn about on the snow by the keepers for the benefit of the partridges. Another thing which strikes the English eye is the absence of any hedges or suitable places for the birds to nest in, but this does not appear to

affect the birds much if one may judge by the number on the ground, and it considerably assists the keepers in killing off the vermin, in which respect also Hungary is plentifully supplied.

In this country, as the partridges are far more forward than with us, partridge shooting opens on August 1st, but at Tot-Megyer, where only a few days' partridge shooting annually take place, and a great area of the ground is not shot over at all, it is the custom to shoot late in August or early in September. The actual number of days' partridge shooting is generally only ten in all—five days early in the season, and again five days' hare driving in November, over the same ground, when also a good number of partridges are killed.

As the fences are few and far between, the general manner of shooting is for the guns to walk in line, with a number of beaters between each gun, and behind each gun a man carrying a red flag on a long pole, so that it is easy to see the general line of advance and the respective positions of the guns when moving through the fields of standing maize, which is often higher than a man's head. As a general rule, crops of maize are sown in long strips, with spaces between each where corn of various kinds is also sown. The strips of each are from about 50 to 150 yards wide, and as soon as the corn has been harvested the birds take refuge in the maize during the heat of the day. When the maize is very high it is almost impossible to see or shoot well in it. Therefore, as the line of guns and beaters walk across the line or strips in which the crops are sown, the most effective plan is for each gun, on entering a high bit of maize, to push on in advance of the general line of beaters, and to stand on the edge of the open stubble on the other side, where he can see to shoot. The clouds of partridges which come out of each strip of maize are absolutely bewildering. At first, before any birds have been scattered, coveys come out four and five at a time and get packed like grouse. All these birds rising close round the guns, together with swarms of hares, which jump up in every direc-

tion, present the most extraordinary sight as they go streaming across the open stubble, and the shooting is pretty lively all along the line until the arrival of the beaters into the open space, when there is a brief halt to pick up the birds. A few small boys follow each gun, and it is their particular duty to collect and carry what falls to the gun of each shooter whom they follow. Undoubtedly, to judge from the zeal which these urchins display in trying to claim every bird which they can see, they make small wagers amongst themselves on the result of the pick-up, during the day, that is credited to their respective masters. Retrievers are not often used, and consequently many runners are lost in the high maize; but it would be hard to prevent any dog from flushing scores of birds if put on a running partridge only a few yards in front of the line. With the exception of one or two dogs used by the head keepers behind the line, retrievers are hardly at all in evidence.

If any of these vast fields are fortunate enough to possess one or more fences, the usual mode adopted to walk in line, driving the birds ahead, until a fence is reached, when the guns halt, and the beaters go round and drive back the birds over the line of guns, thus making a pleasant variation from the continuous walking in line and shooting straight in front. The season of 1902

was considered a bad one at Tot-Megyer on account of the heavy hailstorms, which killed many young birds early in the season. For this reason there were no regular big days' shooting over the estate, but only four short days. On the first two days two guns bagged 260 brace of birds and on the 27th and 28th of August a party of three guns, consisting of Count L. Karolyi, Prince Z. Odescalchi, and the present writer, bagged 390 brace, the last day yielding 227 brace in less than five hours' shooting. Had the number of guns been six or seven, the bags would have been more than doubled each day, as with such a small party the coveys kept breaking on the flanks of the line, and birds were never scattered, nor the conveys broken up. The last-named bag was made in one field of less than 300 acres, and as an example of what a larger party can do, it may be mentioned that the bag on the same ground in 1901, with a party of ten guns, was 905 brace in the day. This day is a record for Tot-Megyer. In September, 1901, ten guns bagged 3,510 brace in five days' shooting, and the bag for the season 1901 in ten days' shooting, of which five days were in September and five days were devoted to hare driving in November, shows a total of over 5,000 brace of birds—a bag which could easily have been doubled by a few more days' shooting early in the season.

HARE DRIVING IN HUNGARY.

BY CAPTAIN C. E. RADCLIFFE.

In Hungary, on some estates, the hares are so numerous that they are positively a nuisance, especially early in the season, when walking through the maize fields after partridges, for then they keep rushing madly about along the line of beaters and guns, and in such numbers that the ground in places seems alive with them. Here, however, it is forbidden to shoot them when out partridge shooting, since the

great hare drives are reserved for the month of November, when the land has been cleared of crops. The Hungarian hare is a larger animal than its English neighbor, but differs in no respects as regards its timidity and its frantic rushes to break back through a line of beaters and guns when hustled about on strange ground.

The general method of conducting one of the great hare shoots in which Hun-

gary excels is as follows: The guns, usually from eight to ten in number, are formed in line with several beaters between each gun. The whole line covers perhaps a mile or more of front. From each flank of the line a large number of men are sent forward, and placed at intervals in a long line at right angles to the line of guns. These flankers may be as many as you please, and cover a distance of varying extent, according to the number of men employed. About 150 men are generally employed in each of the flank lines. When the whole party is formed up, it is really three sides of a vast square lined with men, the front of the square, which is the general line of advance, being left open. At a given signal, which is generally a note from the head keeper's horn, the whole body of men and guns advance, each keeping their respective positions and distances. It is not long before the whole ground in front of the guns is alive with moving hares. This general advance is maintained for a long distance, often as far as two or three miles, with only occasional halts to collect the bag. During this period it is the duty of the flankers to keep as many hares as possible within the square in front of the guns. When the advance is considered to have been continued far enough, the guns halt and form up at convenient distances, to cover the ground between them. The flankers then converge and close the open end of the square, and being joined by the other beaters, they form a semicircle and sweep back the country in front of the guns, thus driving numbers of hares back which have been all day moving in front of the line, and also encircling many fresh ones, together with swarms of partridges, which latter, if the wind is favorable, give the finest shots imaginable, as they come rocketing over the guns in the open.

As the estates of Tot-Megyer were selected to exemplify Hungarian partridge shooting, a few notes on the bag of hares generally made there will suffice, although these bags, unlike those of the partridges, must not be taken as

Hungarian records. Here the hare drives take place in November, and generally last five or six days, the average bag being about 1,000 hares per day. The best bag in one day was 1,512 hares with eight guns in 1900. The late Count Karolyi, who was well known for many years as the Hungarian Ambassador in England, once tried to see what bag he could make to his own gun. For this purpose he selected his estate of Stomta, which is some distance from Tot-Megyer, and is celebrated for its number of hares. Here he adopted a drive similar to the method described, with the exception that when the drivers swept back the ground towards him, they were formed in the shape of a huge soda-water bottle, whilst he stood as it were in the neck of the bottle. The result of this day's shoot was the extraordinary bag of 600 hares in a little less than five hour's shooting, when Count Karolyi decided to stop, and as far as the writer's knowledge serves him, this bag stands as a record for one gun on any one day's hare shooting in the world.

It is pleasant in these days to see flocks of the Great Bustard on some of these Hungarian estates. Here one can see, even from the train, a few miles from Vienna, these fine birds walking about on the open country. A certain number of them are annually shot, but they are very wary, and like the bustards on the plains at Jerez in Spain, they are well able to take care of themselves. The method generally adopted in Hungary to approach them is by means of a horse and cart carrying a load of hay or straw, in which the shooter is hidden, and by this means he may be lucky enough to get one shot at a bustard after many miles of manoeuvring his cart. Occasionally a few are shot in the big drives, when some less wary than the rest pass over the guns.

How absurd it seems to permit everyone to shoot 25 birds or some other number per diem and to deny to breeders the right to take a similar number for propagation.



An Old Orchard—a Good Place for Geese.

BREEDING CANADA GEESE.

H. S. LITTLE.

In April, 1904, I bought my first pair of Canada geese. They did not breed the first year, as I did not get them early enough to have them get accustomed to the range; the next spring the goose laid five eggs which hatched and were all raised.

I have been increasing my flock by adding pairs of breeders and now have a number of pairs that have been breeding for the last few years.

We have about five acres in an old orchard with a brook running through it about ten months of the year, and an artificial pond at the lower end, the geese are kept here the year round; they feed on the low ground near the brook and do not require grain, except when the grass is covered with snow. We allow them to nest as they please; some pairs will nest near the pond, building up a pile of grass and weeds; others will use shredded wheat cases that we put out for our ducks to nest in.

I have tried taking the eggs away and

placing under hens, but with no success, as the geese never laid a second clutch and the hens did not raise as many goslings as the old geese would.

Our geese average about five eggs, some will lay seven, but that is the largest number I ever had.

The young are very hardy; they will follow the old geese a few hours after they are hatched. On our range they do not require feeding, as they gain rapidly on grass alone. Sometimes I give them one feed a day of Spratts' Patent game meal for a week or so to give them a good start. Of course, on some ranges grass would not be sufficient; then I should feed the game meal and cracked corn as they got older.

I pinion the youngsters when a few days old, using a sharp pair of scissors and cutting the wing just beyond the first joint or elbow; if not pinioned they will fly at about ten weeks.

We have had very good luck in mating our geese. In fact, we have never had



A Fair Brood.

a goose or gander that was over three years old that refused to mate. They like to pick their mates, however, and it is best if you have several odd birds to turn them in a yard together and let them pick to suit themselves. I never knew a goose to lay under three years, and it is usually four, but I have had a gander mate at two years with an old goose and raise a nice flock.

Canada geese must be kept on the range where they are to breed through

the winter or placed there at least by the first of March, as otherwise they will not be likely to breed the first year.

Another thing to look out for—keep dogs and strangers out of the breeding yard, and don't disturb the geese when setting any more than necessary.

I would sum it up, get old geese (older the better); get them early; have a good, large range, with a pond or brook for them to mate on, have a pile of coarse sand and oyster shells where they can find it, and let them alone.



A Safe Rearing Ground.

HOW I GOT MY WILD BLOOD.

BY J. D. McCLINTIC.

As some of my patrons ask how I got my wild blood, I will explain in as few words as I can. It would take a book to hold all my experience with this grand and most beautiful of all fowls—the wild turkey. I got my first wild blood about 25 or 26 years ago by one of my hens straying away with the wild turkeys in the mountains. She came home after being away for some time with a flock of little turks. Four of them were wild and little beauties. They could fly to the tops of the trees when the little tame fellows could not fly on the fence. My next wild blood I procured about 20 years ago, as was described at the time by *The Lewistown Gazette*, as follows:

Saturday a large wild gobbler came down off the mountain to the orchard at Valley View Poultry Farm and started a fight with the large bronze gobbler belonging to the farm. The proprietor, hearing a terrible thumping, went to see what was the matter. On reaching the orchard, he beheld the two gobblers engaged in a deadly battle. Standing and watching the fight until his turkey got the best of the knight of the forest and had a deadly grip on his throat, he went to take hold of the intruder, when his turkey let go his hold and away the wild turkey went to the mountains. Mr. McClintic says the fight was worth seeing.

The large bronze gobbler belonging to the Valley View Poultry Farm died last week from the effects of the fight he had with the wild gobbler from the mountain two weeks ago. The gobbler that did the deed has taken up his abode on the farm with the turkey hens, staying through the day and going to the mountain at night. He is a grand bird in size and plumage and struts around among the turkeys and chickens as if he had always been used to civilized life.

This grand old Tom stayed with my hens till the breeding season was over, then left; but the next spring he returned early in March. He was nearly starved, as the winter was severe, with deep snow. He ate about a pint of corn at his first feed. He was not afraid of me, but was shy of strangers and would run to the mountain when strangers would

get too close to him, but finally, he did not mind strangers much. I raised some grand, beautiful, birds out of this old Knight of the Forest. After this my hens mingled with wild Toms along the mountain, as I did not have my orchards wired then. Six years ago another Wild Tom came. I penned him with the hens, but if I did not let him out at nights he would fly out. He would never roost with the hens, but would go to the mountain every night. About the second week of last February one morning, as I was feeding my turkeys, I saw an old wild Tom standing outside of the wire. He left, but I believed he would return. I went to work and prepared for him by wiring one end of one of my orchards off for him, made a large gate on the side next the woods. He came back the first week of March. I opened the gate and he came in, and was right at home among the hens. At first he would not roost with the hens, but he finally got to roosting with them. He stayed till about the 15th of August. He came back once after this. I called to him as he was some distance away with another old Wild Tom. He started to come to me, but the other old fellow ran for the mountain. He stood undecided for a few moments, then raised his wings as if in a farewell salute, and ran after his companion.

He had become so tame he would run around me and play when I would go to feed him. I photographed him. He is the first wild turkey right from our mountain on record that was ever photographed. I took several pictures of him, but it was hard to get a good picture, as he was afraid of the kodak. The best picture I got of him he was coming towards me watching the kodak and started to run just as I snapped him. It does not do him justice at all, but I just wanted his picture as a novelty and something rare. He was admired and

was a wonder to all who visited our farm last summer. I have some fine young birds sired by him. I believe this old Tom will return next spring if he escapes the hunter.

I have been a great hunter of wild turkeys in past years, killing up to thirty in some years, but now no one could pay me to kill the beautiful birds; they are getting too scarce. It used to be a common sight about twenty years ago to see thirty to forty in a flock ranging along the foot of the mountains in the fields where now we see none. Where there was one hunter then there is one dozen now, and with their repeating guns there is no chance for the poor turkey. If the government does not prohibit the hunting of them for a number of years there will not be one left, and with the going of the wild turkey our tame turkeys will dwindle away, for now turkey raising is almost a thing of the past all over the

country, so we must get back where nature started with the wild turkey to get the vitality that has been lost through breeding and feeding; for all other breeds originated from the wild turkey. The wild turkey crossed with the bronze is the finest domestic turkey to be had. The plumage is rendered more brilliant, the carriage more graceful and the flesh greatly improved, and having a yellow skin they make a nicer appearance dressed for the market. The wild turkeys of our Northern clime have more vitality and can endure more exposure than those of the Southern clime; our winters being so severe with the temperature 20 and 25 degrees below zero at times. With snow two feet deep on the mountain they must subsist chiefly on the buds of trees. I have had half wild hens to reach the age of twelve years and be strong and vigorous and still lay. This shows the wonderful vitality of our wild turkeys.

MORE CAT TALES.

BY EDWARD HOWE FORBUSH.

[The tales about cats printed in the April Game Breeder and continued in this number are from an important bulletin written by Edward Howe Forbush, the State Ornithologist of Massachusetts, and published by the State Board of Agriculture.]

Vagabond or Wild House Cats in the Country.

Mr. William Brewster, of Cambridge, the Nestor of New England Ornithologists, says he and his dogs frequently have started cats from their resting places in woods and game covers. He says, writing from Concord, they are seldom noticed, being shy, elusive and largely nocturnal, but that he finds their tracks everywhere in the woods after the first snowfall. He asserts that his guides, James Bernier and William Sargent, of Upton, Me., trappers of large experience, assured him some years ago that the forested parts of New England with which they were familiar were numerously inhabited by woods cats. Quite as many cats as other fur-bearing animals

were caught in traps even in locations upward of thirty miles from any house or clearing, and over the northern Maine line in the Canadian woods.

Mr. Charles E. Goodhue, naturalist of Penacook, N. H., says it is hard to tell whether or not cats are vagrant or wild, but local trappers get many in their traps, and cats roam over the country in every direction. Three trappers among my correspondents corroborate this. Mr. Nathaniel Wentworth, of Hudson, N. H., former game commissioner of that State, says that he has seen many cats, sometimes miles away from any house, and feels sure that more game birds are killed by them than by the hunters—an opinion expressed by many others.

Wm. C. Adams, a member of the Mas-

sachusetts Commission on Fisheries and Game, has noticed particularly the tracks of cats in his travels. He found numerous cat tracks on the islands of Muskeget, Tuckernuc, Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard. On Nantucket he noted that the tracks extended three or four miles from any habitation. He saw traces of many birds evidently killed by cats, particularly on Muskeget and Martha's Vineyard. He describes a similar condition on Cape Cod, in the townships of Provincetown, Eastham, Orleans and Sandwich, where he has hunted. He says that cats are numerous in a large section between Worcester and the Rhode Island line, and in the country between Ware and Greenfield; also between Adams and North Adams, and in many parts of New Hampshire. He has observed many tracks on the winter snows; he has seen many cats, some of them with birds, and frequently has noticed them on lonely roads at night, by the light of his car lamps. Several hunters have told him of finding litters of kittens far back in the woods.

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The Cat and Bobwhite.

Mr. Fred A. Olds saw a cat spring into the air and come down with a full-grown cock bobwhite in its claws. Col. Charles E. Johnson asserts that he saw a cat with a bobwhite in its mouth running toward a Negro cabin. When the colonel arrived at the cabin he found a colored woman plucking the bird. She said that the cat brought in birds very often. Many cats are encouraged by their owners to bring in game. T. B. Johnson says, in "The Vermin Destroyer," that he has known several cats that caught game and brought it home. These cats were highly esteemed by their owners.

Mr. F. W. Henderson tells, in the Rockland "Independent," of a cat that brought her kittens an entire brood of bobwhites. Dr. George W. Field relates that a covey of bobwhites which he was watching in Sharon was discovered by a cat and attacked at night, at intervals of two to seven days, until the number had become reduced from sixteen to eight. They then left in a body for Can-

ton, where they were recognized later. Mr. E. Colfax Johnson, of Sudbury, says that he has known of entire flocks of young bobwhites being destroyed by cats. Mr. John M. Crampton, superintendent for the Connecticut State Board of Fisheries and Game, writes that last fall (1914) a farmer requested that a special protector be sent to look after the bobwhites on his land. When the warden arrived he found that the farmer had fifteen cats, some of which had brought in three bobwhites already that morning. Mr. B. S. Blake, of Webster, tells of a cat that took home three bobwhites in one week. Mr. Edward L. Parker tells of a servant who saw a cat break up two bobwhites' nests. Senator Louis Hilsendegen, of Michigan, says in the "Sportsman's Review" that Henry Ford bought 200 pairs of bobwhites at \$3 a pair and released them on his farm at Dearborn, Michigan. A stray cat, left by a farmer who had moved away, found them and it was noticed that their numbers were decreasing rapidly. A watch was set for the cat; it was shot and found to weigh sixteen pounds. Under a rail shelter, where the birds had fed, a mass of feathers and other remains about a foot deep was found. That cat, says the Senator, had killed more than 200 bobwhites, which had cost the owner \$300. Mr. E. R. Bryant, of the Henry Ford farms, writes me that this story is true except that it may be a little overdrawn in regard to the number of birds killed. He never knew exactly how many were slain by this cat.

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Ruffed Grouse.

Cats are nearly as destructive to grouse as to bobwhites. I have seen a ruffed grouse that was killed on her nest and partly eaten by a cat, while the eggs were scattered and some were broken but not eaten. Almost invariably in such cases a careful search will reveal a few hairs of the cat on some branch or twig, lost in the struggle. If several steel traps be set, carefully concealed, around the dead bird the cat may be taken.

Mr. William Brewster tells of a day's hunt by four sportsmen with their dogs, in which they killed only one game bird

—a bobwhite. On their return at night to the farm-house where they were staying, they found that the farm cat had beaten their score, having brought in during the day two bobwhites and one

grouse. Mr. Cassius Tirrall, of South Weymouth, asserts that a cat living not far from his home has brought in so many bobwhites and grouse that the family has "lost track of the number."



Guinea Hens as Insect Eaters.

Mr. G. H. Sander, of Dayton, Ohio, says in *Sportmen's Review*:

As I have a number of guinea hens on my farm near West Milton, Miami county, Ohio, and the farmer tells me they are great insect eaters, why not encourage farmers to raise them for food, as they are a South African game bird domesticated in this country. I hear in California they raise them to take the place of game; why not in Ohio?

The guinea is a good watch dog, wary for hawks, and will care for themselves at all times. It is a fine bird to eat for the dinner table.

Thousands of guineas have been raised and sold as food in the New York markets. Some of the game clubs have given them a trial as game birds but they are reported to be not even as good as pheasants to say nothing about our grouse and quail. I have seen guineas half wild on the prairie in Illinois which flushed well and flew as strongly as the prairie grouse. One occasion I came very near bagging a brace of guineas when I was shooting grouse. The birds flushed well ahead of my dogs and I detected the white spots just in time to stay the trigger finger.

The Watch Dog and the Owl.

The guinea hen often has been called the watch-dog of the barn yard. We engaged one as a watch dog for the mallards and pheasants on the preserve of the Game Breeders' Association, but one evening, shortly after the guinea arrived, a great horned owl dropped down and "nipped off her nose," her whole head in fact. The owl took a plymouth rock hen and four mallards for dessert. He or his mate now sits on a shelf behind the editor's chair in the office of *The Game Breeder*, having been nicely embalmed by taxidermist Sauter. His portrait appears in the booklet of the Hercules Powder Company, "Game Farming for Profit and Pleasure." Whenever any of our readers wish to see the owl they can write to the Hercules Powder Company for the booklet. It is for free distribution and "well worth the money"—that is to say the money paid for it including the owl's portrait.

More About Duck Breeding.

Many of our readers are asking for special information about the breeding

of species of ducks other than the mallards.

We have printed several short articles on this subject by successful breeders and for the benefit of new readers who are asking advice we repeat the substance of some of these articles.

The mallards reared on preserves are easier to handle than other ducks are because they are descended from ducks artificially reared and in many cases they have a more or less visible admixture of tame blood; this is true even of some ducks which are strong on the wing and afford good sport.

The black ducks have been bred in good numbers by some of our readers and by the writer, but in every case the stock ducks have been in captivity at least two years and those which have been made fairly tame are the birds which lay eggs. They do best when given a considerable area about the pond where they can select a suitable nesting place in grass, brush or weeds. They should not be disturbed by strangers or by stray dogs or other animals which may alarm or destroy them. I have seen birds of the third or fourth generation which were quite as easy to handle as some mallards are, and I once purchased a lot of such ducks which were reared in a small yard near a farm house and which fed fearlessly at their owner's feet. I have had no trouble breeding these black ducks and some others which I purchased from another breeder, which were quite tame. They were strong on the wing and often went miles away from home visiting a bay where they remained for hours at a time. They returned very promptly at four o'clock every afternoon when I always gave them a good meal. They were so prompt that we could tell the time by their arrival. One of our readers described how he rears about 200 black ducks every season in a wire inclosure about one-third water, one-third marsh and one-third higher ground suitable for nesting, containing grass, brush, etc. Mr. Pickell has succeeded in making pintails as tame as mallards and as easy to handle and breed. He and others have bred the blue-winged teal, the green-winged teal

and some other species. Many breed the wood-duck which is quite easy to handle; some have bred the ruddy duck and a few other species.

I have purchased hundreds of wild black ducks and pintails which would not lay an egg and persisted in remaining wild and shy. This was due no doubt to a lack of attention by the game keepers who were very busy rearing thousands of pheasants and mallards and had not the time or the patience necessary to sufficiently tame the wild birds.

The secret of success is to start with birds which have been partly tamed, preferably with those which have laid eggs in captivity, or with captivity bred birds. Since most species will not lay eggs until the second or third year the dealer who has such stock naturally will ask a higher price for it than for fresh trapped birds or the easy going commercial mallards. Fresh trapped mallards are not easy to handle but they are in great demand since all breeders wish to add wild stock to their flocks in order to keep the birds strong on the wing and suitable for shooting.

Fresh trapped mallards, therefore, are worth at least twice as much as captivity bred mallards are, but with the other species the figures are reversed since fresh trapped birds do not lay eggs for some time and birds which will lay are naturally in big demand.

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Care and Feed for Young Turkeys.

J. D. McClintic, who breeds tame, wild and half-breed turkeys with great success, says:

First see that they are free from lice, see that they are not over fed. Lice and over feeding kill more young turkeys than any other cause. Feed bread cut in slices and browned in oven, crush fine when cold, mix with hard boiled egg cut fine and cut dandelions; moisten with a little milk or water if not moist enough to stick together. After two or three weeks old mix a little shorts with bread and egg. Feed a good chick feed as they grow older; give them range if you can.

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Importance of Range for Wild Turkeys.

It is an easy matter to rear wild turkeys, just as it is to rear quail, grouse,

wild fowl and other game birds, provided you know how. The closer they are kept "in captivity," as some game laws read, the more danger there is of diseases and of producing birds uninteresting to sportsmen and undesirable on the table.

I once reared two small lots of wild turkeys from eggs and stock birds procured from the late Professor Blanton, of Virginia. Young turkeys from eggs hatched under barnyard fowls in the hatching house (where thousands of pheasants and wild duck eggs were hatched) were taken to the rearing field with their foster mothers, placed in coops and fed (somewhat overfed) on pheasant foods. The young birds did well for a time but soon it became evident that something ailed them. They became dull and stupid. I noticed that they stood about the board on which their food was placed and did not notice the grasshoppers which hopped about abundantly at their feet. I killed one of the birds and attempted to have an examination to ascertain the disease made in Washington but the weather was warm and although the bird was shipped in ice it arrived in a bad condition and the cause or kind of disease was not discovered. The other birds died one by one, in my opinion from over-feeding and too much "in captivity" words which should be fired from every statute in the interest of the health of the game birds.

One brood of the turkeys hatched wild by one of our hens in the woods was brought in to the farm house by the proud mother in fine condition. We fed the old bird a little and she moved on into a small wood bordered by grain and grass where grasshoppers and other insects and wild berries were plentiful. Here the birds roamed by day and roosted in the trees at night. I told the gamekeeper's boy to throw stones at them if they attempted to come in to feed and once saw him drive them out of the pheasant pen. They were quite shy but thrived amazingly on the wild food found in field and wood. When about half grown a great horned owl took several of the birds but the rest matured and were handsome, healthy

and strong on the wing. A number were shot on the wing in the autumn. I am fully convinced that turkeys reared in orchards, fields and woods with a good range are not hard to manage and that they can be reared very inexpensively since they will procure practically all of their food in the fields and woods.

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A Mixed Ration for Pheasants.

Two ring-necked pheasants (a cock and a hen) confined in a pen 8' x 16' x 6' and rat-proof, sides and top of 1" mesh galvanized wire, were recently tested as to their food preference. Food was accessible to them at all times but in separate hoppers, which were covered with wire to prevent waste. All food materials were carefully weighed on a kitchen scale. My purpose in making the test was to establish the food preference of the birds.

For convenience of comparison I have tabulated the results as follows:

	Oz.	Per cent.
Cracked wheat	36	20
Cracked corn	41.4	23
Rolled oats	12.6	7
Rape seed	21.6	12
Millet seed	14.4	8
Canary seed	12.6	7
Ground dried meat.....	34.2	19
Granulated charcoal	1.8	1
Grit	1.8	1
Ground bone	1.8	1
Calcined shell	1.8	1
	180.0	100

In addition, the birds were supplied with a head of fresh lettuce per day, of which they consumed from one-half to three-quarters. It will be seen that the food taken averaged 2½ ounces each per day.

At the commencement of the test the cock weighed 1 pound 14 ounces and the hen 1 pound 8 ounces; at the end of thirty days, when the test was completed, the cock weighed 2 pounds 4 ounces, a gain of 8 ounces, whereas the hen weighed 1 pound 12 ounces, or a gain of 4 ounces. This gain in weight indicated that these pheasants had thrived upon the mixed food afforded them.—Joseph Ketchum, in California Fish and Game.

The Game Breeder

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

EDITED BY DWIGHT W. HUNTINGTON

NEW YORK, MAY, 1916.

TERMS:

10 Cents a Copy—\$1.00 a year in Advance.

Postage free to all subscribers in the United States.

To All Foreign Countries and Canada, \$1.25.

THE GAME CONSERVATION SOCIETY, INC.

PUBLISHERS, 150 NASSAU ST., NEW YORK

D. W. HUNTINGTON, President,

F. R. PEIXOTO, Treasurer,

J. C. HUNTINGTON, Secretary

Telephone, Beekman 3685.

AT LAST.

The New York legislature has decided to take our advice and has opened the markets to some species of game produced by breeders in other States. It is quite absurd, of course, to only permit breeders to sell elk and deer, since the antelope needs their money and protection far more than the elk and deer do. It is absurd to encourage the saving and production of pheasants and common wild ducks only while the indigenous grouse, quail and wild turkeys need the attention of breeders far more than the pheasants and the ducks do.

Some States now permit the breeding and the marketing of all species of game and we have advised the owners of quail and grouse that we will sell their birds for them at excellent prices even if the people of New York are not permitted to eat the native food as the people in more civilized States can. The Hotel Men's Associations of the State and City of New York and the game dealers are entitled to much credit for seeing the new statute safely in the books. We have congratulated them privately and we now wish to publicly thank them. All intelligent sportsmen and game breeders favored the amendment and many letters went to Albany from our readers, including State game officers in other States. Credit, of course, is due the magazine chiefly for suggesting that an end be put to the legal nonsense. As we

have remarked at other times it is better to kill nonsense piecemeal than not to kill it at all. We now propose that the laws be amended still further so that it will not be criminal to eat any kind of food, produced by industry within or without the State. Such an amendment will soon make the quail, grouse, wild turkeys and many species of water fowl as plentiful as the pheasants, deer and ducks now are in the hands of game breeders.

OUR GROUSE AND QUAIL.

Forest and Stream in its last issue seems to have abandoned all hope of ever having any native game in America and seems glad to learn that pheasants reared in captivity can be made to take the place of our quail and grouse.

We are pleased to say that the United States is now, probably, the third largest pheasant producing country in the world; that it probably has more pheasants of certain species than China, where the pheasants are indigenous; and that soon we will be the biggest pheasant producing country in the world.

Forest and Stream will be surprised to learn that our ruffed grouse soon will be abundant and cheap in our markets, and also the quail, prairie grouse, wild turkeys and other game, during long open seasons. We know a number of places where there are as many quail per acre as is desirable; more would probably result in diseases due to over-crowding. We know places where there is an abundance of ruffed grouse in the woods and where the shooting is good every season.

The delay in making the indigenous grouse and quail plentiful in many places has been due to game laws preventing the shooting of decent bags and the sale of the birds by those who look after them properly.

Ruffed grouse and quail can be produced in big numbers much cheaper than pheasants can be produced since easily they are handled in a wild state. There should be some incentive, however, to do the necessary work, which, briefly stated, is the protection of the birds from their

natural enemies; the planting of some additional covers and foods where this is necessary and the feeding of the game in winter.

In a very short time we will have all the native birds we wish to eat at reasonable prices; possibly we may have to go outside of New York to eat the wild turkeys, produced by industry for a short time, but we have a notion that common sense rapidly is being revived and that this is really all that is needed, besides the "revolution of thought," called for by the dean of sportsmen.

Take a walk through the markets next fall, dear Forest and Stream, and look at the thousands of imported black cocks offered for sale. These birds are somewhat similar in their habits to our ruffed grouse, and we have a big area suitable for grouse, to say nothing about the vast Canadian forests. And Canada is waking up as numerous letters from Canadian members of the Game Conservation Society indicate.

PARTRIDGES AND HARES.

We print in this issue two stories by Captain C. E. Radcliffe, from Shooting in order that our readers may learn how easy it is to make the partridges and hares tremendously abundant without any expensive artificial rearing "in captivity." The thousands of partridges and hares were produced simply by destroying their enemies and feeding them in winter.

The prairie grouse and quails and our numerous hares and rabbits can be made and kept abundant, although thousands be shot and sent to market, as soon as we know how and are not in danger of being arrested for food producing. The laws rapidly are being made right in many States. Soon we will open the New York market to quail and grouse and soon these birds will swarm as they formerly did on suitable areas. We predict in many places they will be far more plentiful than they ever were. We should send the thousands of dollars which we now send abroad, for black cocks and other game birds, to the American breeders. Quickly they will use the money to good advantage and the game

which is said to be vanishing soon will be plentiful and cheap. Very little comparatively of the posted lands will be needed to produce such results.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Game Conservation Society:

Of the several magazines I take I look forward to the coming of The Game Breeder with the most genuine interest and satisfaction, so I cannot afford to miss a copy. I have not yet received the April number.

H. C. SHANEY.

Chicago, Ills.

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Game Conservation Society:

I have the letter of your Secretary of the 13th inst. and am very glad to have such advice as is given therein, but I would like to know more.

In the first place I get the idea from reading your magazine that Illinois is taboo territory for game raising and sale. I assume you mean the latter. Of course, I presume a man could raise all the game he wanted to if he did not kill it for sale. Since you must know the laws of the various States, advise me on this point and what you think it would be necessary or desirable to do to overcome such law if existing.

Further advise me how to proceed to get up a game breeding preserve and what the experience of those who make such efforts has been. Anything which you can say which will throw light upon the subject and give me encouragement, will be gratefully received.

Most sincerely,

G. A. STEPHENS.

Illinois.

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It is impossible to answer by mail, in detail, the thousands of enquiries which come to the Society. We have long since ceased to advise what the game laws are in the different States. The laws are changed so often that no one is safe in saying what they are at any particular time. Most of the States issue booklets containing the State game laws and we suggest that you write to the Game Commissioner and get a copy of the laws.

We do attempt to keep up with the

laws in so far as they relate to game breeders, and we are pleased to state that over two-thirds of the States now permit the profitable breeding of all or certain species of game. We publish brief abstracts of these laws from time to time after the law mills have ceased their activities for the year.

A man as you say, certainly can raise all the game he wants to, but as we have pointed out, often, he will not be apt to do so in States which prohibit quail shooting for five or ten years or prohibit him from shooting more than three cock pheasants in a season, and where similar restrictions are applied to other species. Our contention is that he should decide how many birds he will shoot in a season and how many it is necessary to leave for a breeding stock. He should decide how many he will sell to help pay the cost of production. These ideas have been incorporated in the game breeders' enactments, many of which were written in the office of The Game Breeder, in whole or in part.

We regret that as a new subscriber you have not seen the scores of articles about the game clubs, game farms and individual preserves (many of them illustrated) which we have published from time to time in The Game Breeder. New clubs and preserves are being started all the time and many individual breeders now breed game in large and small numbers. We shall print many more stories about the successful clubs and about the game farms and small breeders. These will describe what they are doing and how they do it.

The story of the Woodmont Club and a subsequent article by its secretary, who owns a wild turkey preserve, contained much valuable information about the breeding and shooting of wild turkeys. Miss Mary Wilkie, who advertises wild turkeys in The Game Breeder, contributed two interesting articles about the breeding of these birds. In the stories about the Game Breeders' Association, the Clove Valley Club, the Blooming Grove Club, the Wyandanch Club, the Middle Island Club, and others which have an abundance of game, the writers described the breeding operations and

the good shooting. Many small breeders and game farmers have written their experiences. There will be many more of these stories since many of our readers who are successful have promised to write short articles which we will print from time to time. Some of the clubs and individual preserve owners now shoot thousands of quail every season.

Some of the States only permit the profitable breeding of pheasants, ducks and deer. Others permit the breeding of all species.

In answer to your inquiry as to "how to proceed to get up a game breeding preserve," we can only say that we have had so many requests for such information that we have decided to publish several articles on this subject and these will be supplemented by many stories about what the preserve owners and game farmers are doing and how they do it. These stories will be written by those who are successful in having splendid shooting and who sell some of the game to pay the cost of rearing it.

Mr. Brigham, who wrote the story about the Clove Valley Club which annually shoots thousands of pheasants and ducks, said that if the club had been run purely as a commercial enterprise it would have cleared thousands of dollars.

We hope to begin the series of articles about how to organize game clubs and shooting syndicates in the June issue and we shall reprint some of the facts from the articles referred to because many new readers are asking for information about those already in the game.

We are quite sure you will agree with us now that most of the farms are posted and the tendency of our legislation is to put an end to sport by prohibiting shooting at all times or for terms of years, that those who arrange with the farmers so that they can shoot big bags of game during long open seasons and sell some of the game, thereby making the people friendly to sport, are doing a great public service.

The necessity for individual action is presented in a booklet on "Game Farming for Profit and Pleasure," issued by the Hercules Powder Company. This booklet is for free distribution, and it is

doing much towards making the country a big game producing country, as it should be.

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The Game Breeder:

With reference to your correspondent who wishes information regarding Blue Pit Games, will say I am a game fancier, with a taste for the rare and unusual, and while the blue variations are comparatively common, such as Blue Red, Blue Grey, Blue Pyle and Blue Spangle, I have only found one man out of hundreds of correspondents who claims to have the genuine Blue Pit Games.

Your inquirer should address Dr. R. Armfield, Marshville, N. C.

Very respectfully,

C. N. McELHANY.

Texas.

Some Unsolicited and Appreciated Remarks.

Editor Game Breeder:

Our once-run advertisement in The Game Breeder made a nearly complete clean-up of our offerings—3 dogs and all the game egg orders we could handle, at a cost of less than 1 per cent. for the advertising.

T. W. INGERSOLL.

Buffalo, Minnesota.

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Editor Game Breeder:

Please take my advertisement out of The Game Breeder. I have sold all my surplus stock and still orders are coming which I can not fill.

CHERRY FARM,

A. J. APPLEBY.

Chester, New Jersey.

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Editor Game Breeder:

Your may discontinue my deer ad. It sold all the deer and I do not wish to be obliged to answer the many letters which are still coming.

Illinois.

F. A. F.

=

Editor Game Breeder:

That ad. did all the work. Letters began coming at once. I had lots of inquiries and quickly sold all the wild turkeys and eggs I could spare * * *

Before closing I must say how the results have encouraged me and how proud I am of shipping eggs at such a price.

MARY C. WILKIE.

Beaver Dam, Virginia.

The New Law for New York.

[The following new law for New York is important for non-resident game breeders. It should add \$5 to the value of every acre used for game and probably more.—Editor.]

Section 377. Certain mammals and birds may be imported from without the State and sold. Any person engaged in the business of raising and selling domesticated American elk, whitetail deer, European red deer and fallow deer, roebuck, pheasants, mallard ducks and black ducks, or any of them, in a wholly enclosed preserve or entire island, of which he is the owner or lessee, under a breeder's law providing for the tagging of all preserve bred game and otherwise similar in principle to the law of the State of New York in such case made and provided, may make application in writing to the commission for a permit to import such mammals or birds into the State of New York and sell the same. In the event that the commission shall be satisfied that the said mammals and birds are bred in captivity and are killed and tagged under a breeding law similar in principle to that of the State of New York, upon the payment of a fee of five dollars, together with such additional sum as the commissioner may determine to cover the necessary cost of inspection, the commission may in its discretion issue a revocable permit in writing to such applicant to import such mammals and birds raised as aforesaid into the State of New York and to sell the same, in which case the provisions of sections three hundred and seventy-two, three hundred and seventy-three and three hundred and seventy-four of the conservation law, in so far as the same are applicable, shall apply.

Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately."

A Bait Shortage.

The Master (taking the class on the subject of the Deluge): "You remarked that Noah couldn't spend very much time fishing while in the Ark. What makes you think so?"

Experienced Scholar: "Because there were only two worms in the Ark, sir."—Melbourne Leader.

It should be legal everywhere to trap birds for propagation under permits from the State on wild lands and without permits on the private lands owned by game breeders.

Game Breeders' Supplies

WIRE - COOPS - TRAPS

Wire

For Deer Parks, Rearing Fields and Kennels

Coops and Hatching Boxes

Traps

For Ground and Winged Vermin

Egg Turners, Egg Boxes for Shipping

And all Appliances for Game Farms and Preserves

I shall be pleased to correspond with game breeders who wish to purchase wire, coops, traps or any appliances for the game farm and preserve.

Special advice given to all contemplating the game breeders' industry.

F. T. OAKES

Room 622

150 Nassau Street

New York, U. S. A.

I do not sell live deer and game birds, or eggs

THE PORTAGE HEIGHTS GAME FARM

ROBERT J. McPHAIL, Head Keeper

Portage Heights, Akron, Ohio

Ring-Necked Pheasants Eggs For Sale

For delivery prior to May 15, \$25.00 per hundred

For delivery after May 15, \$20.00 per hundred

\$3.00 per dozen

All our pheasant hens are mated with imported cocks.

Distributors of PHEASANT GERMICIDE for the United States. A COOP of 15 CHICKS, one day old, with HEN, COOP and FEED and GERMICIDE enough to rear to 6 weeks old, including instructions, for \$13.00.

J. R. GAMMETER,

Portage Heights, Akron, Ohio

OUR FEATHERED GAME

A manual on American Game Birds with shooting illustrations in color, and bird portraits of all American Game Birds.

By D. W. HUNTINGTON

Editor of The Game Breeder

PRICE \$2.00

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Published Monthly at 150 Nassau Street, New York City.

Publishers—The Game Conservation Society, Inc., 150 Nassau Street, New York, N. Y.

Editor—D. W. Huntington, 150 Nassau St., New York, N. Y.

Managing Editor—None.

Business Managers—The Game Conservation Society, Inc., 150 Nassau Street, New York, N. Y.

Owners—The Game Conservation Society, Inc.

Stockholders—C. B. Davis, Grantwood, N. J.; F. R.

Peixotto, 55 John Street, New York, N. Y.; A. A.

Hill, 71 Murray Street, New York, N. Y.; D. W.

Huntington, 150 Nassau Street, New York, N. Y.;

J. C. Huntington, 150 Nassau St., New York, N. Y.

Known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities: None.

D. W. HUNTINGTON, Editor.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 28th day of March, 1916.

[L. S.]

(Signed) GEORGE F. BENTLEY,
Notary Public, New York County.

(My commission expires March 30th, 1916.)



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A practical trainer of over 30 years' experience, whose system is up to date and stands unequaled.

New Edition Just Out. Illustrated.

A plain, practical and concise, yet thorough guide in the art of training, handling and the correcting of faults of the bird dog subservient to the gun afield. Written especially for the novice, but equally valuable to the experienced handler. By following the instructions plainly given, every shooter possessed of a little common sense and patience can train his own dogs to perfection.

Paper cover, \$1.00; best full cloth binding and gold embossed, \$1.50. Address

THE GAME BREEDER, 150 Nassau Street, N. Y.

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Announcements inserted under this head in small type for 2 cents per word. If displayed in heavy type, 5 cents per word. No advertisement accepted for less than 30 cents. Postage stamps accepted in payment.

THE GAME BREEDER

150 Nassau Street

New York City

LIVE GAME

PHEASANT AND JAPANESE PHOENIX FOWL
Eggs for sale; several varieties. S V. REEVES, 114 E. Park Ave., Haddonfield, N. J.

QUAIL, PARTRIDGES, WILD FOWL, DEER AND
other animals. See display advertisement in this issue.
WM. J. MACKENSEN, Proprietor Pennsylvania Pheasantry and Game Park.

CANADA WILD GEESE AND THEIR GOSLINGS—
A limited number for sale now—the surest way to start breeding this species. We are the oldest and largest breeders of Canadas in this country. Black and White Swans, Wild Ducks, etc., for sale. WHEALTON WATER FOWL FARMS, Chincoteague Island, Va.

WILD TURKEYS—For prices see display advertisement in this issue. W. J. MACKENSEN, Yardley, Bucks County, Pa.

FOR SALE—Pheasants and eggs. Everything in the pheasant family. Pamphlet with order free. BUCKWOOD PHEASANTRIES, Dunfield, Warren Co., New Jersey. (101)

BRED FEMALE MINK, SKUNKS, FOXES, OPOS-
SUMS Pigeons, dogs. Particulars free. TARMAN, Box G, Quincy, Penna.

FOR SALE BUFFALO AND ELK IN CAR LOAD
lots or single. Deer, Antelope, Beaver, Mink, Mountain Lion, Pheasants and Game Birds. Eggs in season. KENDRICK PHEASANTRIES, Coronado Building, Denver Colorado. 7-16

WILD MALLARD DECOYS—RAISED ON LICENSED
Wisconsin game farm. Birds \$1.50 each, eggs \$1.50 per 12. Going fast, don't delay. E. G. SHOWERS, Onalaska, Wis.

5 VARIETIES OF PHEASANTS. Wild Mallards, Wild Geese and game. Fourteen varieties of standard Poultry, including Turkeys. Also Elk. List free. G. H. HARRIS, Taylorville, Ill.

GOLDEN AND ENGLISH RINGNECK PHEASANT
eggs for hatching. May to August. W. S. ALLISON, Merrimacport, Mass 7-16

PURE BRED WILD WATERFOWL AT FOLLOW.
ing prices: Mallards, \$3.00 per pair. Pintails, \$2.50 per pair. Green Wing Teal, \$4.00 per pair. Blue Wing Teal, \$3.00 per pair. Also retheads, Gadwalls, Widgeons, Canvasbacks, Spoonbills, at reasonable prices: for propagating and scientific purposes. GEORGE J. KLEIN, Ellinwood, Kansas.

FOR SALE—PAIR GOLDEN, PAIR SILVER PHEAS-
ants, \$5.00 each this month. Mallard ducks, \$5.00 per pair, eggs \$2.00 per dozen. Stamp for inquiry. A S. COOPER, Howell, Mich. 3-16

GOLDEN PHEASANTS—\$10.00 A PAIR. EGGS 30c
each. FRANKLIN J. PITTS, 14 Webster St., Taunton, Mass 7-16

SAN LORENZO GAME FARM—BREEDER OF
all kinds of pheasants; eggs in season; also birds for sale at all times. Visitors welcome. Write for price list. Mrs. S. MATTHIESSEN, San Lorenzo, Alameda Co., California. 7-16

CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATED PHEASANT BREED-
ERS. Pheasants, Quail, Mallard price list. FRED D. HOYT, Hayward, Cal.

GAME EGGS

RING NECK PHEASANT EGGS FROM CHOICE
stock. Order now for early delivery. \$2.50 per setting of 15 eggs. EDWARD W. DOLAN, Worthington, Minn. 5-16

WILD MALLARD DUCK EGGS—APRIL TO MAY
15, 1916, \$15.00 per hundred. May 16 to July 5, 1916, \$12.00 per hundred. Safely packed (send draft). Order at once. First come, first served (no limit, no discount). C. BREMAN CO., Danville, Illinois.

ORDERS FOR RINGNECK PHEASANT EGGS FOR
season 1916—Fine healthy stock—Birds not related—Price \$3.50 for 15. DR. HOLMAN, Attleboro, Mass.

PHEASANT EGGS FOR SALE; STRICTLY FRESH
and fertile. I am now booking orders for spring and summer. Amherst, Golden, Silver. GRAY PHEASANTRIES, Ward Street, Orange, New Jersey.

EGGS FROM RINGNECK PHEASANTS, MALLARD
ducks. All the popular breeds of high grade chickens. MILL ROAD POULTRY FARM, Apple Grove, Virginia. 5-16

WILD MALLARD DUCK EGGS FOR SALE—FROM
wild stock this season; also Ring-Neck Pheasant eggs. From largest breeding farm in the south. H. A. BEASLEY, Carroll Island Club, Continental Trust Building, Baltimore, Md.

WILD MALLARD EGGS FROM CHOICE STOCK
bred under natural surroundings. May, 15c.; June and later, 12c. ROY E. McFEE, Canajoharie, R. D. No. 2, N.Y.

ENGLISH RING-NECK PHEASANT AND WHITE
Guinea eggs, very reasonable. Address HIRSCH POULTRY YARDS, Lyons, Ill.

WILD AND BRONZE TURKEY EGGS, CHICKEN
eggs. Handsome catalog showing pure wild gobbler from the mountain. VALLEY VIEW POULTRY FARM, Belleville, Pa.

MALLARD EGGS. FROM SELECT WINNERS.
\$3.50 per 13, \$25.00 per hundred; from utility stock, \$2.00 per 13, \$15.00 per hundred. Early eggs bring better results. Enter order now. CLYDE B. TERRELL, Naturalist, Dept. P2, Oshkosh, Wis.

RINGNECK PHEASANTS, EGGS FOR SALE AT
\$2.00 a dozen. ISAAC SPENCER, 10 Wayne Ave. Ipswich, Mass.

FOR SALE—WILD MALLARD DUCK EGGS, \$18.
per hundred. Also English Ringneck Pheasants Eggs. \$25. per hundred. All eggs from good, strong stock. Apply to JOSEPH E. ASHBY, Manager, Dudley Road, Bedford, Mass.

PHEASANT EGGS FOR HATCHING—Chinese ring-
neck \$3.00 per dozen, \$20.00 per hundred; Golden \$4.00 per dozen, Silver \$5.00 per dozen, Reeves \$7.00 per dozen. OREGON BIRD & PHEASANT FARM, Beaverton, Oregon.

RINGNECK, SILVER AND GOLDEN PHEASANT
eggs for sale. Pure stock and fresh eggs only. Reasonable. W. L. EDISON, Morristown, N. J.

GAME BIRDS WANTED

WANTED—MONGOLIAN AND RINGNECK PHEASANTS and deer for breeding. Also cub bear. Give description and prices. **CLARE WILLARD**, Allegany, New York.

WANTED—WHITE PEAFOWL, EITHER SEX, Pied Peafowl, Soemmerring, Cheer, Hoki and German Peacock Pheasants, Ruffed Grouse, and White Squirrels. Also Swinhoes; state price and number. **R. A. CHILES & CO.**, Mt. Sterling, Ky.

WANTED—FANCY AVIARY PHEASANTS, RINGNECKS, peacocks, partridges, quail, prairie chickens, wood and mandarin ducks. Quote prices. **ROBERT HUTCHINSON**, Littleton, Colo.

DEER WANTED—Wanted, one pair of adult fallow deer. State price. **A. C. C.**, care of The Game Breeder, 150 Nassau St., N. Y. City.

WANTED—250 to 300 YOUNG WILD MALLARD Ducks. August or September delivery. State best price, terms and particulars. **I. W. ENGLAND**, Passaic, N. J.

GAMEKEEPERS

SITUATION WANTED—HEAD GAMEKEEPER OR Superintendent of large estate or game preserve. Very capable man to show sport. Thoroughly experienced rearing pheasants, partridge, quail and wild ducks. Management of incubators hatching pheasant and duck eggs. Also breeding, training and handling high class shooting dogs. Excellent trapper, competent manager. Reference present employer. **GAMEKEEPER**, 157 East 69th St., New York.

GAMEKEEPER REQUIRES SITUATION, UNDERSTANDS all duties. Best references from Europe and this country. Address **M. F.** care of The Game Breeder, 150 Nassau Street, New York.

WANTED—SOBER, INDUSTRIOUS, EXPERIENCED man to raise Pheasants and Turkeys. Will pay a moderate salary and liberal share of profits. Address giving full details of qualifications. **CHAS. B. WOOD**, Hadlyme, Conn.

UNDERKEEPER—WANTED A GOOD MAN WHO thoroughly understands pheasant rearing, willing and obliging. Age about 24 years. Send full particulars of references to **REARER**, care of The Game Breeder, 150 Nassau St., New York City. 7-16

WANTED—SITUATION

As Superintendent or Manager on a game farm or preserve. Experienced in game and poultry breeding. Good reason for desiring change of location. Would take an interest in a game farm to breed game commercially. Address **C. McM.**, office of The Game Breeder, 150 Nassau Street, New York City.

REAL ESTATE**GAME BREEDING FARM WANTED**

Wanted to purchase or rent a small place in one of the Eastern States where game breeding is legal. A small farm with a pond and stream is desired. State price and location. **M. A. C.**, care of The Game Breeder, 150 Nassau St., N. Y. City.

BUNGALOW FOR SALE OR RENT HAVE WELL BUILT BUNGALOW IN THE MOUNTAINS of Ulster Co., N. Y., 2 hours from N. Y. City and half-hour from Poughkeepsie. Bungalow contains 6 rooms, good artesian well and first-class outbuildings. Will rent furnished or unfurnished for the coming summer. Address **E. DAYTON**, 26 Bergen Ave., Jersey City, N. J.

WANTED PARTNER—TO TAKE AN INTEREST in a deer park and preserve near New York. 150 acres fenced with eight foot fence, containing deer and an abundance of ruffed grouse. Two trout streams and splendid water for wild duck breeding. **G. B.**, care of The Game Breeder, 150 Nassau St., New York City.

FOODS

WHITE'S PRESERVE—WILD CELERY AND ALL kinds of wild duck food, plants and seeds. Also entertain sportsmen. Waterlily, Currituck Sound, North Carolina.

WILD DUCKS' NATURAL FOODS. Will attract them. These foods collected, examinations made, plantings planned and superintended. Write for free information. **CLYDE B. TERRELL**, Specialist on the Natural Foods of Wild Ducks, Dept. P1, Oshkosh, Wis.

MEAL WORMS FOR BIRDS, FOR SALE BY THE hundred or in large quantities. 25c. per hundred. Write for prices for larger lots. **WM. STOFFREGN**, 124-126 4th Ave., New York City.

MISCELLANEOUS

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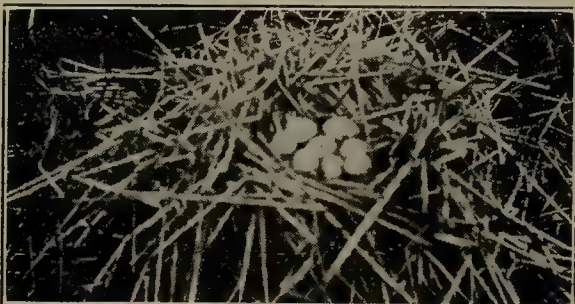
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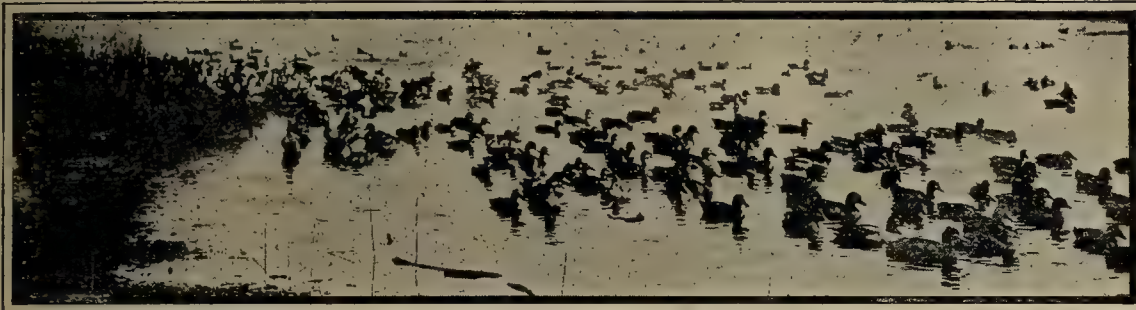
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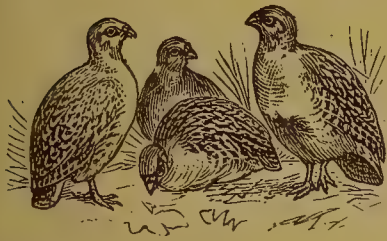
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THE GAME BREEDER

VOL. IX.

JUNE, 1916

No. 3

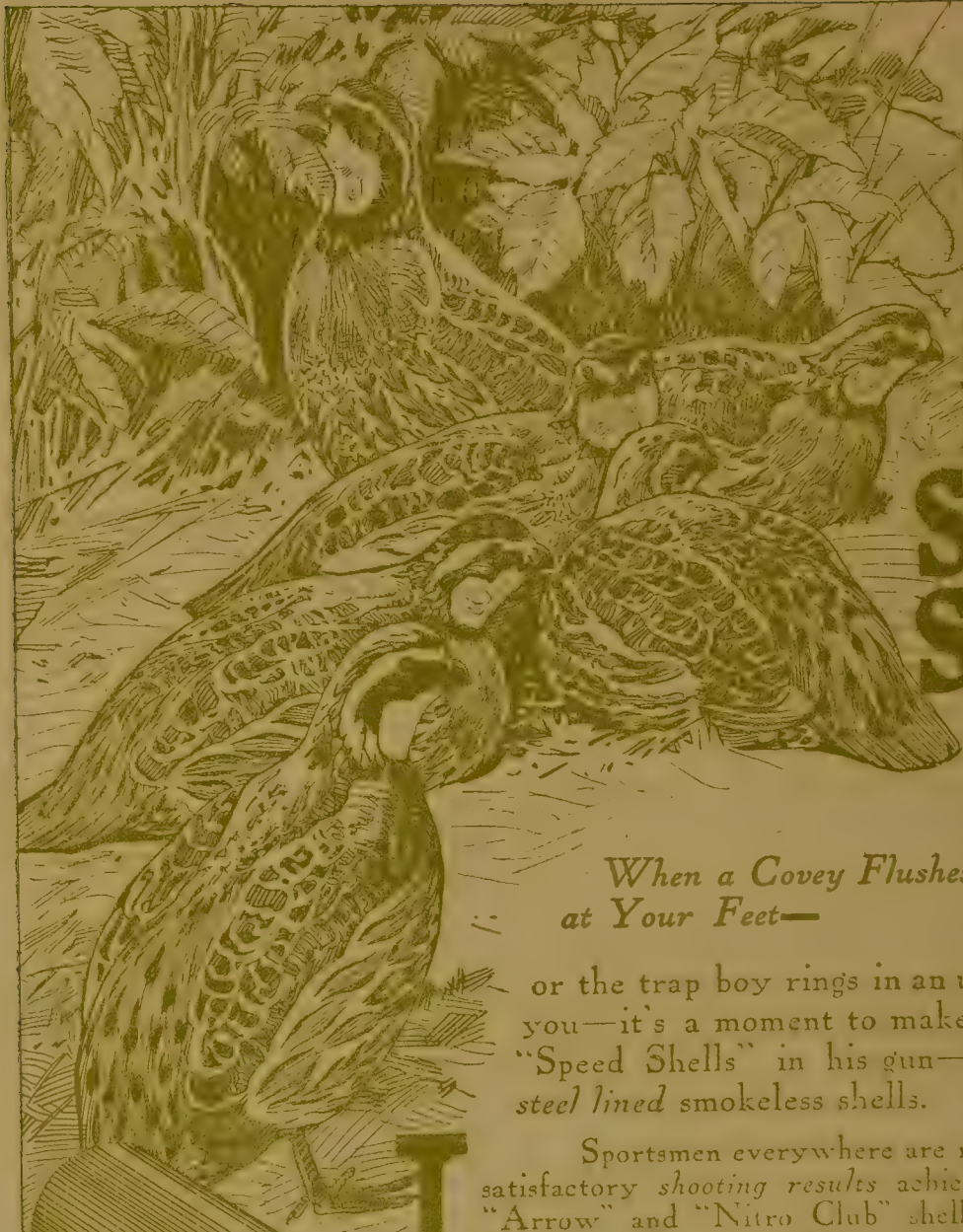
THE OBJECT OF THIS MAGAZINE IS
TO MAKE NORTH AMERICA THE BIGGEST
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PHEASANT REARING FIELD.

PUBLISHED BY
THE GAME CONSERVATION SOCIETY, Inc.
NEW YORK CITY, U.S.A.

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The Game Breeder

Published Monthly. Entered as second-class matter, July 6, 1915, at the Post Office, New York City, New York, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

VOLUME IX

JUNE, 1916

NUMBER 3



SURVEY OF THE FIELD.

Are We Coming to This?

A newspaper item in the Saturday News of Lewisburgh, Pa., states that the quail season opens October 15 and closes November 1. The limit is four birds in one day, ten in a week, and twenty in the season. Evidently both season and bag limit are down to a microscopic limit.

California Fish and Game, the quarterly publication of the State Game Department, quoting the above asks: "Are we coming to this? Will twenty years more hunting in California bring this State to the same short season and small bag limit?" and says: "The answer is yes, unless we profit by the experience of such States as Pennsylvania."

The truth of the matter is that California, like many other States soon will learn that the season and bag limits quoted are much too big. Many States have put bobwhite on the song bird list and only permit this bird to be eaten by cats, foxes, crows and other vermin. Of course, a few illegal shooters, also, can have quail to eat. It is a simple, well understood natural law that if we add to the checks to increase of any species, the species quickly will decrease in numbers. Shooting and cats are important checks to increase. The easy way to save the quail has been found by some game officers to be, to take the sportsman's money and use it to execute laws prohibiting quail shooting. The sportsman can pay \$1.00 for a license and shoot at the trap.

A Better Way.

In New York State quail shooting is prohibited for a term of years, except-

ing on Long Island. It has been a difficult matter to keep the island open. Fortunately there are many clubs and individual quail breeders on the Island. The quail are increasing in numbers, rapidly, the shooting is good and the bag limit has been enlarged recently.

The places where foxes, hawks, crows, cats and other vermin are best controlled have the best shooting, but there is excellent shooting on many places where any one can shoot by reason of the fact that many quail nest outside the "noisy sanctuaries" which are the best possible sanctuaries because the shooting always is lively on the inside and fairly good in the neighborhood of such places. It is a very simple proposition based on Darwin's statement, "reduce the checks to increase and the species quickly will increase to any amount."

Game Laws and Quail.

Of course, in States where quail shooting is prohibited and where no one is permitted to breed quail for profit, the cats and other vermin have a fair amount of game to eat excepting on places where the covers are few and where natural foods are scarce. In such places the vermin and a little illegal shooting is enough to exterminate the game during the periods when shooting is prohibited.

It is highly important that those who arrange with the farmers to shoot on the posted farms should be permitted to sell some of the quail they produce. It costs something to plant covers and food so as to keep the birds abundant and evenly distributed. It costs something to control the foxes, hawks, crows, snakes, cats and many other game enemies so

that always there will be plenty of game to shoot, sell and eat. The selling is important because men of moderate means should sell some game to help pay their expenses.

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The Cost of Quail Preserving.

Where quail are bred wild in the fields the cost of production is very small compared to the cost of hand-rearing pheasants and ducks. The wild bred quail afford the best shooting. The advantages of a good game breeder's law are that those who operate under it make their own season and bag limits and sell some of the extra game to keep the expenses down. There are places near New York where the dues in quail clubs are only \$15 to \$25 per year. Since no quail can be sold only enough birds are produced for the club members to shoot. We hope it will not be long before extra keepers can be employed and that enough quail will be produced to keep the markets full during a long open season. Very little of the land now posted will be needed to keep the markets full. The open season for those who do nothing should be long and the bag limits should be increased as soon as there are one or two quail clubs in each county. Trap shooting clubs provide their clay birds. Quail shooting clubs must provide their quail. It is a very easy matter to do this but not in States where shooting is prohibited.

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Some Questions for California.

One of our California members has sent the following questions:

1. Is California a game breeding State?
2. Is there a licensed game breeder in California?
3. Are any California breeders operating under the Bowman act?
4. Have any permits to breed game been issued under this act?
5. If so, how many?
6. What part, if any, of the Bowman act is executed?
7. Is the State propagating and preserving its game?
8. Is there a duck preserve in Califor-

nia which produces any of the ducks shot?

9. Will 3,000 game birds stock 156,000 square miles of territory?

10. Does the State plant fish in private waters?

11. If the California breeders are not operating under the Bowman act under which law are they working?

Many of our readers are breeding game in California. Only a few advertise in *The Game Breeder*, but we presume that here, as elsewhere, most of them could not fill their orders.

We are inclined to think from the many letters coming from California that it is time for the game breeders, sportsmen, hotel men, farmers and dealers to get together and to work together for more game and a better game breeders' law than the Bowman act is.

We understand that the charge for a license is too high—\$25.00. This should be reduced to \$2; as it has been in some States, or to nothing as it is in Massachusetts. The State should be glad to issue breeders' permits at a nominal cost or without charge, if it wishes to have the game increased rapidly.

We are inclined to believe that most of the numerous California duck clubs are destroyers only and not producers of game. We believe all of them will quickly undertake game breeding when they understand the subject and the many benefits game breeders have under a proper law.

Of course, 3,000 birds will not stock a big State, especially when the birds are thinly distributed and for the most part quickly eaten up by vermin. Some of our members now shoot over 3,000 birds in a season and have plenty left over. Tame game produced on a State game farm is no match for the numerous enemies which occur everywhere when it is liberated. We heard recently that California had decided to give up feeding vermin and that the State farm would be abandoned. The State should distribute game birds as the United States Fish Bureau distributes fish. To those who will look after them properly and multiply their numbers. Quickly the

game will overflow from such places and tend to restock the State. Seeds are given by the government to those who will plant them. The department should represent all of the people and should see that game is produced for them to eat.

We cannot answer all of the questions asked but we believe the State game officers see the importance of encouraging game breeding; that they will help to have the law made right. We shall be glad to help plan a campaign in California such as has resulted in much good in other States. The best game officers do not interfere with or prevent the production of game.

We understand that the "otherwise than by shooting nonsense" occurs in the California law. This absurdity made its first appearance in New York which has set numerous fashions of nonsense. It was knocked out the first year in so far as pheasants are concerned. The next year the law was amended so as to permit the owner to shoot his ducks. It is likely that over five thousand birds will be shot this year at some of the shoots. The pheasants and ducks are now sold at good prices in the New York markets. Pheasant and duck breeding and shooting has been put on a safe basis, the owners of the game make their own bag limits and season limits and sell large quantities of game for the people to eat. We have just opened the New York market to the breeders in other States and soon it will be full of pheasants and ducks during long open seasons.

The Game Conservation Society will in the future conduct a vigorous campaign in the interest of our native quail and grouse. These need the breeders attention most. In some States it is legal to produce and sell them. We expect in a very few years to have the markets full of them and the sportsman who cannot find a place to shoot will surely be a blind one when game is abundant and cheap.

Lonely Arizona.

Arizona has the distinction of being one of the few States, if not the only one, in the Union without any commer-

cial or even sporting game breeders. Arizona, however, has a very small population and plenty of the wild foods to go round. It would be a good State for a few commercial quail farms. The land is cheap, the climate is suitable and at one time the Gambell's quail was tremendously abundant.

G. M. Willard, the State game warden writes: "Aside from some experimental work in pheasant culture, being carried on by this department on a small scale, there is no one in the State engaged in the propagation of game birds or animals either for sport or profit."

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Quail With an Awful Stomach.

One of our readers, a Southern gamekeeper, says in sending a clipping from a Baltimore paper: "This quail must have had an awful stomach; I guess if all the insects was put together they would weigh about a half pound." Mr. Hansen, State game warden of Tennessee, is quoted in the clipping as presenting, "many examples of work done by the commoner varieties of birds; his analysis of a meal found in the stomach of a single quail is as interesting as any. This one high-liver had stored away 2,326 plant lice, 568 mosquitoes, 100 potato bugs, 100 chinch bugs, 39 grasshoppers, 12 squash bugs, 12 cut worms, 12 army worms and 8 white grubs." We often wonder that the game politician when discussing natural history should stop at scores and hundreds of bugs. Why not make it thousands of each kind instead of exactly 12 squash bugs, 12 cut worms and 12 army worms? The want of a few facts never should be permitted to interfere with a good story when a political department is exploited for the benefit of the farmers who often really know something about the real habits of birds.

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Brer Fox in Kentucky.

Kentucky has a new law protecting fur-bearing animals, including the fox. The law wisely provides that farmers may kill the fox and others at any time on his own premises if they be found injurious. Game farmers will no doubt

see that the foxes and other animals destructive to game are properly controlled on game farms. There is plenty of room in Kentucky for the splendid sport of fox hunting without running the hounds through farms where game is propagated abundantly.

Kentucky now has a good game breeders' law and no doubt there will be fox breeding counties in Kentucky where this sport predominates and game breeding counties where game is bred abundantly, just as there are counties in England where one or the other sport is more common. English writers say it is a difficult matter to rear game in fox hunting counties, but they manage to have both game and foxes on some estates. We have pointed out often that the owners of the premises should decide what they will entertain and the two new Kentucky laws seem to carry out this idea.

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The "More Game" Movement.

The "more game" movement seems to be gaining great headway in the Central States. It is flourishing in New England. Rapidly it is flowing into California, where soon it will be an organized force. The wave of common sense which it represents soon will make it easy for State game officers, everywhere from Maine to California, to permit the sale of any kind of food produced by industry on a farm. It really seems to be an odd crime—"food producing!" We have often thought if some one (especially one of the many women, who are now producing quail and other foods) would go to jail for a short time for profitably producing food on a farm, and let us use a photograph of the prisoner behind the bars, the result would be to quickly put an end to this nonsense for all time to come. There is no possible reason why the American farmers and sportsmen should not have as much freedom as farmers and sportsmen have in all other countries.

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Bully for the Booklet.

News comes from every State in the Union about the remarkable work being

done by the Game Breeding Department of the Hercules Powder Company. We have had excellent reports about the booklet, "Game Farming for Profit and Pleasure," issued by this company, and the effect it has had in opening the eyes of the people to the necessity for game farming for profit as well as for pleasure. We distributed several thousand copies of this book, and the demand for it still continues. A prominent sportsman from the West, who called at the office of The Game Breeder a few days ago, said he had procured over an hundred copies of the book and was converting his neighbors to the "more game" idea.

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Harmony.

Now that the National Association of Audubon Societies has a department of applied ornithology, which works on all fours with the Game Conservation Society, and with the Game Breeding Department of the Hercules Powder Company, and the American Protective Association, also, has a committee on game breeding; the harmonious activities of these interests should soon make America the biggest game producing country in the world. Game breeding with the Game Conservation Society, which naturally leads the "more game" procession, is not a department; it is the whole show.

The other societies have a wider range; the Audubons look after the song birds and all other birds; the American Association takes a special interest in the creation of quiet refuges for game. The Hercules Powder Co., of course, has dynamite and ammunition powders as a side line; but the fact that we are all pulling together for "more game and fewer game laws" (in so far as breeders are concerned) indicates beyond a reasonable doubt that America soon will be the biggest game producing country in the world.

There is honor enough for all.

Subscribe for The Game Breeder, only \$1 a year.



The Club House.

THE LONGWOOD VALLEY SPORTSMEN'S CLUB.

KENNETH F. LOCKWOOD.

Tourist and summer resort literature long ago made trite the most delectable adjectives in our vocabulary—a most unfortunate fact when one sets out to describe such an enterprise as is the subject of this narrative. There may have been a day when the public was willing to believe that beautiful meant beautiful and that wonderful meant just that and so on, but the reckless abandon with which these words have been seized upon and dragged into type has multiplied the population of Missouri beyond all reason.

Now, skepticism is a terrible affliction. It ossifies and petrifies the mind and the heart. The original bonehead was simply a skeptic—not a dunce at all. Oddly

enough the ossification process does not affect the eye. Thus the most efficient way to treat a victim is to take him by the hand and gently “lead him to it.” Which is what happened in the case of the writer. True, he was not exactly a skeptic, nor did he claim Missouri as his official residence, but he had read an awful number of railroad and resort booklets—about places he had visited. Let us say, as they do in Washington these days, that his mind was open on the subject.

It is no mean distance from near-skepticism or open-mindedness to enthusiastic, partisan conviction, yet in the case of the writer it was covered in a single step. That was when one fine day



Good Trout Water.

not long ago he stepped into the sunlight of Longwood valley, county of Morris, State of New Jersey.

Northeast and southwest the valley rolls away in gentle undulations of fragrant meadowland, from whose eastern and western borders rise steep, wooded mountains standing like scowling, broad-shouldered giants guarding their jeweled treasures, and there are jewels in this valley—jewels set in the golden richness of the sweet New Jersey air—the emerald of the meadows, the platinum band of the smiling, sunny river; the blue diamond of the crystal lake. They are priceless gems on the virgin brow of the siren Outdoors, whose song is the song of the birds, of the wind whispering in the grass and the tree-tops, of the insects' chirp and the brook's rippling laughter.

This Upper Longwood Valley—or at least a very great part of it—is the leased property, lock, stock and barrel, of the Longwood Valley Club, which is now being organized—it is well started

on its way, in fact, it is situated in the extreme northwestern corner of Morris County and consists of some 5,000 acres, which for years was the private fish and game preserve of the late United States Senator John Kean, of New Jersey, who kept it posted against trespassing and carefully patrolled.

The valley long has been known to Jersey sportsmen for its excellent hunting and fishing and the cream of it all is the Kean estate. Among those who had their eyes on the property was Charles T. Champion, a noted Jersey sportsman, who was the father of the Newark Bait and Fly Casting Club, a leading organization of the East. Soon after Senator Kean's death Mr. Champion entered into negotiations with the estate and eventually secured a lease for ten years with an eye to the organization of an exclusive club to control the property.

On the 5,000 acres one may find the outdoor world in all its aspects—mountain and lowland, forest and meadow,

lake and stream. The forests are dense and wild, yet in good shape for hunting. There are two trout streams and a lake a mile and a half long, with wooded shores for the most part and innumerable coves and turns. It is famous for its bass and pickerel.

The nearest large town is Dover, which may be reached by either the Morris and Essex Division or the Boonton branch of the Lackawanna Railroad. There are more than twenty trains daily each way between New York and Dover at convenient hours. The trip can be made from Hoboken in a little more than an hour, and from Dover it is a run of seven miles to the club. There are numerous garages in town, where autos may be hired by the man who does not care to drive all the way by motor. But the motorist will find the going good. The main route to Dover affords excellent traveling and the highway to the preserve is in first class condition most of the year. The trip has been made from New York in less than two hours.

Longwood valley is wider at its southern than at its northern end, but through that part of it which is on the preserve—a stretch of over two miles—the width varies but little. The mountains rise abruptly and to great height and are wooded and rocky. To the west the property extends about three miles over Bowling Green mountain and part way up another mountain, beyond which lies Lake Hopatcong. To the east it stretches to the very ridge of Copperas Mountain, a striking counterpart of Bowling Green. Here and there on the summit of the latter are clearings of several acres where early settlers made their homes. These spots, which are overgrown with rank grass and other growth, make excellent cover for game birds and rabbits. Some of these clearings will be ploughed and sown with buckwheat and other suitable grain and left standing for the exclusive use of the wild game.

Indisputable evidence of deer may be found on every hand. During the past winter a large herd foregathered in a



Full of Native Trout.

hemlock grove some 500 yards from the club-house and remained there and around the barn yard until the hard weather had passed. They are likewise frequently seen at other points on the property. Partridge, pheasant and rabbit abound and the lake is a favorite resort of wild duck and other water fowl.

There are two trout streams on the property—Beaver Brook and the Rockaway River. Beaver Brook chatters away in a shady valley beyond Bowling Green Mountain. It is a rock-bedded stream of white-capped riffles and deep, dark pools—and the trout that are in it are real native trout.

The Rockaway is another inspiration to the angler. Somewhat wider and deeper than Beaver, it flows through the valley for miles. Dotted its course are pools of great depth where, like a wounded snake, the river turns and twists, cutting deep caverns under its grassy banks. It is one of the finest streams for fly casting the writer ever has seen.

Beaver Brook will be given over entirely to brook trout, while in the Rockaway the rainbow will live and move and have its being until the fatal fly, in expert hands, rounds out its career.

Two trout ponds will complete the facilities afforded the angler. Each is only a short walk from the club house, one being on Bowling Green Mountain, the other in the valley. In one there will be nothing but brook trout, in the other only rainbows. Both ponds are fed by

never-failing springs of ice cold water and are ideally suited to the purposes for which they will be used. But little work remains to be done to put them in shape. Indeed, by no means the least important of the club's activities will be the breeding of trout for stocking purposes. Black bass will also be raised on the place. In the way of game, chief attention will be devoted to pheasant and wild turkey breeding.

The club-house stands on an eminence overlooking the valley. It is a large, roomy structure, whose air of homeliness is enticing and satisfying. The rooms are large for the most part. A wide porch entirely surrounds the house and the view from this in any direction is enthralling.

Membership will be limited. With such a proposition as this, it is, of course, extremely desirable to get together a class of men who, first of all, will be congenial. Nothing is being left undone to accomplish this.

Mr. Champion, the organizer, has had much experience in such fields. He served several terms as chairman of the preserve committee of the Newark Club, and is qualified to know what is what. He is one of the leading tournament casters of the east, and has participated as a winner in many tournaments. He was for years secretary of the Federal Trust Company of Newark, and is at present engaged in a kindred line, with offices in the Essex Building, Newark.

THE CALIFORNIA VALLEY ELK.

BY BARTON WARREN EVERMANN,

Director of the Museum, California Academy of Sciences.

[The article about the California valley elk referred to was published in *The Game Breeder*. This splendid food animal would surely have become extinct had it not been preserved by Henry Miller on the ranch of Miller & Lux. The story of the handling and distribution of the elk after they became sufficiently abundant to do thousands of dollars worth of damage is especially timely in view of the recent stories about the damage done by deer on Shelter Island, N. Y., and the decision of the State department to exterminate them which, however, was abandoned in favor of the better plan of sending the deer to the State park.—Editor.]

In *California Fish and Game* for April 10, 1915 (Vol. I, No. 3, pp. 85-96), a brief account was given of the former distribution and abundance of the Cali-

fornia valley elk (*Cervus nannodes*). In that article evidence was presented convincingly showing that this fine animal formerly ranged over the entire San Joa-

quin Valley and adjacent foothills, and through Livermore and Suñol valleys across to the Santa Clara Valley and even to Monterey where Don Sebastian Viscaino found them abundant when he landed there December 10, 1602. Evidence was also presented showing that the range of this elk extended well up into, if not throughout, the Sacramento Valley.

Throughout most of its range the species was very abundant in those early days and it continued to be abundant in the San Joaquin Valley at least as late as the early fifties. With the rapid increase in population of California following the discovery of gold, the elk had a hard time of it, and their numbers rapidly decreased. Through persistent and more or less constant harassment they were soon driven out of the foothills and down into the valley where they found, when too hard pressed, a comparatively safe retreat in the tule marshes. But even there they were not secure. The eager hunters soon devised ways and means by which the animals could be followed into the tule lands, and their numbers went on decreasing. In the early seventies it is said only a few individuals were left of the once vast herds which only a decade or two before had roamed over the great interior valley. One report has it that there was but a single pair. This may not be literally true, but it doubtless correctly states the general fact that the species was almost extinct.

Then it was that a man of vision came upon the scene and saved this magnificent animal from complete extermination. That man was Henry Miller, the founder of the great cattle company of Miller and Lux, the greatest company of the kind in America, if not in the world. It was Henry Miller who saw the fate which inevitably awaited the California valley elk unless prompt action were taken to protect the few animals that were left. Fortunately, the few remaining elk made their last stand in the southern part of the San Joaquin Valley in the vicinity of what is now called Buena Vista Lake, and on land

owned or controlled by Miller and Lux. There they had been able to secure a measure of safety in the willows and tules, but it was Mr. Miller's strict orders to the employees of the company that the elk must not be disturbed under any circumstances, that saved them.

In the article to which reference has been made, it is told how the herd increased in numbers until in 1914 there were probably more than 400 animals in it, how the herd was doing considerable damage each year to the alfalfa and Egyptian corn fields on the Miller and Lux Kern County ranch, and how the California Academy of Sciences undertook to reduce the herd somewhat by transferring some of the animals to suitable places in other parts of the State. It was believed that herds could be established in a number of reservations and parks in the State where they would thrive and thus establish several new centers for the propagation and preservation of the species. The thought was to increase as much as possible the conditions favorable to the preservation of the species. In pursuance of this policy 54 elk were distributed in the fall of 1914 to seven different reservations and parks. Many requests for elk could not be supplied at that time, the number of animals Messrs. Miller and Lux were able to capture not being enough to go around. Those who could not be supplied in 1914 were quite anxious to secure some of the elk and it was decided to make another distribution in the fall of 1915. This was done. Messrs. Miller and Lux again built a large corral near Buttonwillow in a field to which the elk were in the habit of coming at night to feed. The same method was followed as was pursued the previous year. A total of 100 animals were captured and 92 of these were distributed to fourteen different places.

In order that the record may be complete, there is given herewith a list of all the shipments for the two years, together with the available data regarding the present condition of the various herds. The distribution in 1915, as in 1914, was under the immediate direction

of Mr. A. L. Bolton, of the California Academy of Sciences.

Here follows a detailed description of the distributions of the elk to fourteen parks and private preserves.

* * * * *

From the above detailed description it appears that the Academy has distributed 146 elk among nineteen different reservations and parks in the State; that of this number 25 have died as a result of injuries received while being caught or because of unfavorable climatic conditions, or from unknown causes; that at least 3 fawns were born in 1915, and that the animals now in the various reservations and parks total at least 124.

The California valley elk is an extremely wild and nervous animal under natural conditions and peculiarly liable to receive injury in handling. It is regretted that several were lost, but the number is no greater than should be expected in handling animals of such delicate organization. When these elk become adjusted to their new environment it is hoped and believed their rapid increase will soon more than make good all losses that may have occurred.

It is estimated that the number left in the Kern County herd is between 350 and 400. These, together with those in the new potential centers of increase, assure with reasonable certainty the preservation of the species. In some of these centers it is believed they will become common within a few years. In the meantime the Kern County herd will go on increasing and will continue to do large annual damage to the alfalfa and Egyptian corn fields of that region.

MIGRATORY BIRD LAW AT IT AGAIN.

Game Law Making with a Vengeance.

United States Department of Agriculture,
Washington, D. C., May 16, 1916.
Editor, Game Breeder,
150 Nassau Street,
New York City.

Dear Sir:

I am sending you herewith a copy of the proposed new regulations under the Federal

Migratory Bird Law. These regulations are to be published for three months subject to comment, suggestions, and hearings where thought desirable.

At the expiration of three months the regulations with any changes that may have been made resulting from suggestions received will be recommended for the President's signature and then become effective. This will occur in time for the earliest date of the open season, which is August 16 for shore birds.

You will note that a number of changes are made in the regulations now in force and the Biological Survey believes that many criticisms concerning the regulations have been met without in any way interfering with the proper safeguarding of migratory birds. I trust that you will give the proposed new regulations full publicity in your paper since you reach many people who are much interested in this subject.

Very truly yours,

H. W. HENSHAW,
Chief, Biological Survey.

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Proposed Regulations for the Protection of Migratory Birds.

United States Department of Agriculture,
Washington, D. C., May 16, 1916.
Bureau of Biological Survey.

PROPOSED REGULATIONS FOR THE PROTECTION OF MIGRATORY BIRDS.

Washington, D. C., May 13, 1916.

Pursuant to the provisions of the act of March 4, 1913, authorizing and directing the Department of Agriculture to adopt suitable regulations prescribing and fixing closed seasons for migratory birds (37 Stat., 847), regulations, copy of which is hereto annexed, have been prepared, are hereby made public, and are hereby proposed for adoption, after allowing a period of three months in which the same may be examined and considered. The regulations, as finally adopted, will become effective on or after August 16, 1916, whenever approved by the President.

Public hearings on the proposed regulations will be held by the Bureau of Biological Survey of this department whenever deemed necessary. Inquiries in reference thereto should be addressed to the Secretary of Agriculture.

D. F. HOUSTON,
Secretary of Agriculture.

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Regulations for the Protection of Migratory Birds.

Pursuant to the provision of the act of March 4, 1913, authorizing and directing the Department of Agriculture to adopt suitable regulations prescribing and fixing closed seasons for migratory birds (37 Stat., 847), having due regard to zones of temperature breeding habits, and times and lines of migratory flight, the Department of Agriculture has pre-

pared and hereby makes public, for examination and consideration before final adoption, the following regulations:

REGULATION 1.—DEFINITIONS.

For the purposes of these regulations the following shall be considered migratory game birds:

(a) Anatidae or waterfowl, including brant, wild ducks, geese, and swans.

(b) Gruidae or cranes, including little brown, sandhill, and whooping cranes.

(c) Rallidae or rails, including coots, gallinules, and sora and other rails.

(d) Limicolae or shore birds, including avocets, curlew, dowitchers, godwits, knots, oyster catchers, phalaropes, plover, sandpipers, snipe, stilts, surf birds, turnstones, willet, woodcock, and yellowlegs.

(e) Columbidae or pigeons, including doves and wild pigeons.

For the purposes of these regulations the following shall be considered migratory insectivorous birds:

(f) Bobolinks, catbirds, chickadees, cuckoos, flickers, flycatchers, grosbeaks, humming birds, kinglets, martins, meadowlarks, nighthawks or bull bats, nuthatches, orioles, robins, shrikes, swallows, swifts, tanagers, titmice, thrushes, vireos, warblers, waxwings, whippoorwills, woodpeckers, and wrens, and all other perching birds which feed entirely or chiefly on insects.

REGULATION 2.—CLOSED SEASON AT NIGHT.

A daily closed season on all migratory game and insectivorous birds shall extend from sunset to sunrise.

REGULATION 3.—CLOSED SEASON ON INSECTIVOROUS BIRDS.

A closed season on migratory insectivorous birds shall continue throughout each year, except that the closed season on reedbirds or ricebirds in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, the District of Columbia, Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina shall commence November 1 and end August 31, next following, both dates inclusive: *Provided*, That nothing in this or any other of these regulations shall be construed to prevent the issue of permits for collecting birds for scientific purposes in accordance with the laws and regulations in force in the respective States and Territories and the District of Columbia.

REGULATION 4.—CLOSED SEASONS ON CERTAIN GAME BIRDS.

A closed season shall continue until September 1, 1918, on the following migratory game birds: Band-tailed pigeons, little brown, sandhill, and whooping cranes, wood ducks, swans, curlew, willet, and all shore birds except the black-breasted and golden plover, Wilson or jacksnipe, woodcock, and the greater or lesser yellowlegs.

A closed season shall also continue until

September 1, 1918, on rails in California and Vermont and on woodcock in Illinois and Missouri.

REGULATION 5.—ZONES.

The following zones for the protection of migratory game and insectivorous birds are hereby established.

Zone No. 1.—The breeding zone comprising the States of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, West Virginia, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri, Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, Idaho, Utah, Nevada, Oregon and Washington—31 States.

Zone No. 2.—The wintering zone comprising the States of Delaware, Maryland, District of Columbia, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, Arkansas, Louisiana, Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arizona, and California—17 States, and the District of Columbia.

REGULATION 6.—CONSTRUCTION.

For the purposes of regulations 7 and 8 each period of time therein prescribed as a closed season shall be construed to include the first and last day thereof.

REGULATION 7.—CLOSED SEASONS IN ZONE No. 1

Waterfowl.—The closed season on waterfowl, including coots and gallinules, shall be between December 21 and September 6 next following, except as follows:

Exceptions: In Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, New York (except Long Island), Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Kentucky, and West Virginia the closed season shall be between January 1 and September 16;

In Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Long Island, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Washington, Oregon, Utah, and Nevada the closed season shall be between January 16 and September 30; and

In Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, and Missouri the closed season shall be between March 11 and September 15 and between November 16 and February 9.

Rails.—The closed season on sora and other rails, excluding coots and gallinules, shall be between December 1 and August 31 next following, except as follows:

Exception: In Vermont the closed season shall continue until the open season in 1918.

Shore birds.—The closed season on black-breasted and golden plover and greater and lesser yellowlegs shall be between December 1 and August 15 next following, except as follows:

Exception: In Utah the closed season shall continue until the open season in 1918.

Jacksnipe.—The closed season on jacksnipe

or Wilson snipe shall be between December 16 and September 15 next following.

Woodcock.—The closed season on woodcock shall be between December 1 and September 30 next following, except as follows:

Exceptions: In Illinois and Missouri the closed season shall continue until the open season in 1918.

REGULATION 8.—CLOSED SEASONS IN ZONE No. 2

Waterfowl.—The closed season on waterfowl, including coots and gallinules, shall be between February 1 and October 14 next following, except as follows:

Exceptions: In Alabama, Arkansas, District of Columbia, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia the closed season shall be between February 1 and October 31 next following.

Rails.—The closed season on sora and other rails, excluding coots and gallinules, shall be between December 1 and August 31 next following, except as follows:

Exceptions: In Louisiana the closed season shall be between February 1 and October 31; and

In California the closed season shall continue until the open season in 1918.

Shorebirds.—The closed season on black-breasted and golden plover and greater and lesser yellowlegs shall be between December 1 and August 15, next following.

Jacksnipe.—The closed season on jacksnipe or Wilson snipe shall be between February 1 and October 31 next following.

Woodcock.—The closed season on woodcock shall be between January 1 and October 31 next following.

REGULATION 9.—HEARINGS.

Persons recommending changes in the regulations or desiring to submit evidence in person or by attorneys as to the necessity for such changes should make application to the Secretary of Agriculture. Hearings will be arranged and due notice thereof given by publication or otherwise as may be deemed appropriate. Persons recommending changes should be prepared to show the necessity for such action and to submit evidence other than that based on reasons of personal convenience or a desire to kill game during a longer open season.

SNAKES AND SNAKES.

BY ALLEN SAMUEL WILLIAMS,

Director Reptile Study Society.

[There are undoubtedly snakes and snakes, just as there are hawks and hawks, owls and owls, etc., some more beneficial than others. Often we have heard it said that the little garter snake and others are harmless even in the presence of game and that some snakes are highly beneficial. The tendency on English game farms and preserves rapidly has been in the direction of limiting the destruction of many species of vermin, which formerly were deemed to be harmful. We have pointed out that it is desirable that we should start right in America and not recklessly destroy harmless species because we imagine they may do some harm. Mr. Williams' article about snakes is timely. We shall be glad to have our readers discuss the various snakes and what they are observed to do on game farms. The rule we have laid down for the control of vermin is to observe what it does and to act accordingly.—Editor.]

On behalf of the Reptile Study Society, the suggestion is offered to readers of The Game Breeder and members of the Game Conservation Society to advocate an interest in sparing the lives of harmless (non-poisonous) species of reptiles, which cannot harm game birds and animals, because they are useful to agriculture and to the interests of game propagationists through destroying rodents. In the northeastern United States there commonly occurs no more than a

score of serpents, of which only two, the banded rattlesnake and the copperhead snake, its cousin, are venomous. Without naming all the species or concerning ourselves with their life histories and their bearing upon the game breeding subject, let us specialize on one species, *Lampropeltis dolius triangulus*, commonly termed Milk Snake, House Snake or Spotted Adder. This small species which does not exceed a yard in length feeds, as innumerable analyses of the

contents of stomachs of specimens has proved, almost entirely on small mammals, principally rats and mice, wild and tame. Though too small to engulf a grown house rat, a "Milk Snake" can absorb an entire brood of infant rats at one meal. It is improbable that these serpents ever swallow the eggs of pheasants, quail or other game birds. That these serpents milk cows or rob the spring house milk crocks of the farmers is an absurd but long cherished myth. A reason and an object for this communication is that the indiscriminate slaughter of harmless serpents by painful processes promotes cruelty to animals in general, instead of kindness and consideration. Every one of your readers and members is more or less a naturalist; let them tell us what facts they may know or learn about the re-

lations of serpents to the breeding of game.

The benefit from the food habits of the "Milk Snake" and several other serpents to game breeders is undoubtedly considerable, for the rodent, most prolific of mammals, takes a heavy toll of game bird food, grain, particularly, and rats are both egg-eaters and slayers of young chickens and young game birds. This is meant to be a hint or suggestion to stimulate thought, observation and investigation by and among your readers and members which should eventually result in greatly needed contributions to science and practical benefits to game breeders, hunters and eaters. It is sent with a deep appreciation of the efficient work of the Game Conservation Society and of The Game Breeder as an advocate and enlightener.



HOW TO ORGANIZE A GAME BREEDING ASSOCIATION.

BY D. W. HUNTINGTON.

We have a great variety of game breeding associations, game clubs and shooting syndicates formed to look after the game properly and to provide good shooting during long open seasons. We have also thousands of game breeders who can supply stock birds and eggs in large numbers and the number of individual commercial breeders is increasing rapidly.

Several hundred game clubs are more or less intimately associated with the Game Conservation Society. All take and read The Game Breeder and they are willing at all times to furnish information about their organization and their game breeding methods. We often procure invitations for those about to start to visit clubs which are successful and see how the work is carried on.

We have published numerous illustrated stories about these clubs and we shall publish a hundred or more similar articles about the clubs and game farms

which always have an abundance of game and game fish.

Often we are asked to help start new game breeding associations and to give advice about the organization and about the game breeding methods. Some of the successful clubs rely almost entirely upon hand-reared game, chiefly pheasants and ducks; some have an abundance of quail grouse and rabbits bred wild in the fields and woods. Some of the duck clubs own or rent marshes where many wild ducks come in the autumn; others have small ponds and lakes where both wild and hand-reared ducks are shot every season. A few of the clubs have wild turkeys, and at one of them, The Woodmont, a large number of wild turkeys is shot every season.

Before proceeding to discuss the best methods for forming game breeding associations, I wish to call the attention of those seeking information on this subject to the fact that in States which have enacted our game breeders' laws it pays

to have an abundance of game. The clubs make their own season limits and begin shooting early in the autumn when the glorious Indian summer weather makes it a pleasure to be out of doors. They shoot through the Christmas holidays and until the breeding season approaches when, of course, the shooting ends under a club rule fixing the date. The clubs operating under game breeders' enactments also make their own bag limits and at many places with which I am familiar the club members shoot game which is fully equal in value to the amount of the club dues which, in some clubs, are small. The clubs can, if they wish to do so, sell some of their game to help pay their expenses and many clubs now do so. This is a highly important matter since it not only enables men of comparatively small means to join game breeding associations, but it also supplies the people with some game to eat and makes them friendly to sport. When a man can stop a butcher's bill equal in amount to the game he takes home he is not out of pocket on account of his shooting at the end of the year and I deem it of the utmost importance that clubs should have the right to sell some of the game they produce in order to reduce the expense of producing it and properly looking after it.

Some of the clubs have large dues, elaborate club-houses, large grounds and many game keepers. Some have very modest quarters and much smaller dues. Some arrange with a farmer to entertain members; others arrange with a country hotel for their entertainment at a fixed price. Some clubs own all of their shooting ground; some own a farm and rent some shooting on the adjacent land. Many do not own any land, but simply rent the shooting.

The shooting rent varies from five to ten cents per acre; sometimes it is the amount of the taxes, which in some places are very small.

We have clubs with annual dues as low as \$15 and \$25. At many clubs the dues are \$50 or \$100 and some of the clubs have much larger dues, and they really are elaborate country clubs

with all the comforts of a first class city hotel.

Now that most of the farms are posted and there is a movement to close other large areas as sanctuaries for game where only foxes, hawks and other vermin are permitted to take it, it is highly desirable that many sportsmen should arrange with the farmers to open up the posted farms so that game can be bred abundantly and shot during long open seasons without fear of extinction.

The necessary tendency is to prohibit quail and grouse shooting everywhere, but this will not be necessary when there are a few "noisy sanctuaries" in every county. Quail shooting is prohibited in many states. In New York it is prohibited, except on Long Island, where there are many clubs which have succeeded in keeping the prohibitory game law off the island and in keeping the quail plentiful not only on the club grounds (which occupy only a small portion of the island), but also on free territory where hundreds of gunners shoot every season. This certainly is a better plan than prohibiting shooting.

The game clubs usually are incorporated. Under game breeders' laws the articles of incorporation usually state that the club is formed to breed game and game fish, to own or rent lands for shooting purposes, to provide outdoor recreation for members, etc.

The state laws relating to social clubs differ somewhat and the articles of incorporation should, of course, be written by a local attorney. He is usually a member of the club.

The clubs are governed, like other corporations, by a board of directors, elected by the members. The duties of the president and other officers are similar to those of the officers in social clubs. The president presides at board meetings, appoints committees, etc. The treasurer collects the dues and pays the bills ordered paid by the board; the secretary keeps the accounts and attends to the correspondence.

Some clubs have elaborate constitutions, providing for many matters which might well be left to regulations to be

made from time to time by the board. A simple constitution providing for the officers and their election, the rules for memberships, etc., is all that is required. The board should make such regulations as appear to be necessary, especially those providing for the open season, bag limit and the sale of game, etc. Often these matters are left to a small committee on game and fish, or two committees, one for game and one for fish, when fish breeding is carried on. The board should provide rules for the conduct of members and fix the club-house rates when the club has a house.

One of the simplest and most inex-

pensive plans is for a club to arrange with a country hotel for the accommodation of its members at a fixed rate. This will result in the members getting good accommodation at a rate somewhat smaller than they would pay if they went to a similar place without a club contract. The shooting should be near at hand. The area to be rented will, of course, depend upon the number of guns. Some clubs have 25 members; some 50. The larger clubs have 100, and in a few cases 200 members.

(To be Continued)

NOTES FROM THE GAME FARMS AND PRESERVES.

The Egg Market.

Reports from our members indicate that the market for pheasant and duck eggs opened strong. Twenty-five and twenty dollars per hundred easily was obtained for eggs, and those who placed their advertisements early in *The Game Breeder* reported that quickly they were sold out. One of the largest New England breeders wrote that he was oversold. He said also that he had sold all the ducks he wished to sell and was not offering any for less than \$5.00 per pair.

He says he has decided to keep all of his black duck eggs and hatch them. He sold red-head eggs for \$3.00 per egg last season, but they did not turn out well and he says "to satisfy myself I was obliged to refund the money."

The market remained strong for duck eggs until quite recently, when we had reports from a few breeders that their ducks were laying well and they still had some eggs to dispose of. One says he is much pleased to learn that the New York market has been opened to ducks and that he will hatch the eggs and send the ducks to this market if he should have any eggs unsold.

Reports Wanted.

We shall be obliged to readers of *The Game Breeder* if they will report the

number of eggs sold and the price obtained—not for publication, if this is not desired, but in order that we may present a fair estimate of the eggs sold in order that those who seem to think there is no game in the country can be enlightened.

There was an unprecedented demand for pheasants which increased rapidly as the breeding season approached. The price rose rapidly and at the end of the season those who had any birds to sell could make their own price. Some large dealers appealed to the Game Conservation Society to help them get birds, and we were fortunate in finding a good number for one or two dealers who asked for our assistance.

The opening of the New York market to the breeders in other States will result in many new game clubs and preserves being started. We have been asked to give advice about many of these places, and it is evident that next season, if the war is not ended in the meantime, there will be even a bigger demand than there was at the last breeding season. We would advise those who contemplate starting game breeding for sport or for profit to get in touch at once with our advertisers and to make early contracts for the delivery of live birds in the autumn. The prices surely will rise rapidly as the breeding season ap-

proaches and the birds will thrive better and lay more eggs if they are secured early and become accustomed to their new surroundings.

Turkeys and Turkey Eggs.

One of the largest breeders of wild turkeys recently reported that he had sold all the birds he wished to sell. One breeder declined to sell any wild turkey eggs for less than \$25.00 per dozen and said he preferred to keep his eggs and hatch them.

Miss Mary Wilkey, who advertised for the first time this season, reported that quickly she sold all the wild turkeys and eggs she wished to dispose of.

The Deer Market.

Many deer breeders declined to advertise since they could not fill their orders. One wrote that a small advertisement sold all of his deer within a few days after it appeared. A space advertisement asking for deer did not bring any response and it was evident that the demand far exceeded the supply.

Quail.

Quail prices literally soared. We had a few birds offered at \$24.00 per dozen but soon sales were reported at thirty-six dollars per dozen and later we heard of an offer of \$5 per bird. It is quite evident that the laws should be amended promptly in every State so as to permit the taking of live birds for propagation. The absurdity of issuing licenses to destroy a certain number of birds per diem and of refusing permission to those who would prefer to take their birds alive in order to breed them is apparent and this nonsense like many other varieties must be eliminated from the statutes.

Grouse and Eggs.

Very few sales of prairie grouse and ruffed grouse have been reported. There is a big demand for these birds and their eggs. It is now legal to produce them in many States and the prices are so

good that it seems likely more people will get into grouse breeding. A good big grouse ranch in one of the prairie states soon will make a fortune for its owner and the breeding operations need not interfere with the farming operations. The grouse can be made a valuable by-product on many big wheat farms where we predict they soon will yield more than the wheat. We hope to open the New York markets to this desirable food soon and quickly it should become plentiful. It is mighty good to eat.

Quail in the Woods.

Reports from several of the large quail preserves where quail always are abundant say that the birds frequented the woods more than usual. We were unable to give a reason for this without seeing the ground. An absence of food in the fields, too much persecution in the fields by gunners or vermin will produce such a result. On some of the big places with which we are familiar we can not believe that either over shooting or vermin could be assigned as a reason for the quails leaving the fields. We would suggest that the food supply should always be looked into and the natural field covers should be observed. In some places where the covers are too much reduced and food is scarce the quail naturally take to the woods.

In a story about one of the smaller places published in this issue, it would seem that the quail went to the woods for the small acorns which were so abundant that the food could be easily obtained. Probably it was found easier to get a good meal quickly in the woods than it was to glean the fields. A little corn and wheat distributed in fields when the abundant birds may have eaten most of the natural food should keep the shooting good in the open, where it is easier to make the attractive double shots than it is in the woods. The more food and the more attractive and safe covers there are in open fields the easier it is to hold the birds evenly distributed in them. Vermin should of course be controlled, as it now is fairly well on some of the quail shoots.

Wood-Duck.

Editor of The Game Breeder:

Sir—Have you ever known the wood-duck to build a nest upon the ground? Yesterday I found a nest of eight eggs on the verge of a high bank under a mass of tangled grape vine on my country place in Stamford. There are trees with large holes in the vicinity, but these are occupied by owls, raccoons, opossums and squirrels. The wood-duck's nest is only a few yards away from a ledge in which a litter of grey foxes is raised every year. Who wants to bet on the luck of the mother wood-duck?

ROBERT T. MORRIS.

New York.

ACORNS.

By J. D. FOOT.

From time to time I have looked over your magazine to note if any party either had for sale, or desired to buy, acorns as a food for game birds. My experience shows me in numerous cases, the fondness for acorns that wild birds have.

Shooting on lakes and ponds near the Mississippi River bottoms, with a ten or fifteen foot rise in the river all of the ducks left the ponds early in the morning for the flooded oak bottoms of the river to feed on acorns, returning by thousands at sunset to roost in the lakes and until the water subsided there were few ducks shot on the lakes and ponds.

Ten years ago—as a Blooming Grove member—I have flushed and shot cock pheasants, finding three or four whole acorns in the throat of the birds.

A year ago this winter, shooting on my club preserve in North Carolina, I noticed on the flushing of the covey, that one fell back from the rest; thinking it an injured or sick bird, I shot it. Our game warden was with me. It was a hen bird and its crop was of very large size. At my request he opened it and we took from that crop seventeen whole "wart acorns," called so from their small size, about a $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch in diameter. It was this bunch in her crop that made it hard for her to fly.

This last winter my clubmates re-

ported quail scarce. Early in the season they were plentiful in the field, but later on they could not find them. I went to the Jack Oak scrub in February; found plenty of quail, which, were scattered and picked up later, as singles. In Jack Oak with leaves still on, I thought I was shooting partridge (grouse) up in our northern brush and it took a quick eye and good shot to stop them. I examined the crops of several. They had nicely shelled, quartered and stowed away the larger acorns and now and then taken a smaller one whole.

This was an acorn year in North Carolina and under some oaks not twelve feet in height I could scrape up acorns by the handfull. No wonder the birds were plump and large, as large as the best Conn. quail weighing seven to eight ounces, now and then one of nine ounces, a last season bird.

It occurs to me that breeders of game birds should develop the acorn diet in the birds they grow. Especially pheasants, for on shooting preserves where these birds are liberated, fully one-third escape the gun and were they familiar with acorns as a food, both acorns and chestnuts might keep them from starving until other food was obtainable. If any of your readers wish to try this food, I can give them the address of a man who would gladly sell acorns at \$1.00 per bushel f. o. b. cars, North Carolina, if next year has an "acorn crop."

A machine could be used to quarter the large acorns, and the small fed to the birds whole.

A Suggestion to Cat Owners.

Mr. J. O. Curtis, Mamaroneck, N. Y., writing to the Times, said: "On Saturday last our cat caught two robins. Having tasted blood she has developed the hunting instinct, and during the last week she caught and killed seven birds. Her funeral will take place Sunday afternoon."—The Domestic Cat, by E. H. Forbush.

MORE GAME AND FEWER GAME LAWS.

The Game Breeder

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

EDITED BY DWIGHT W. HUNTINGTON

NEW YORK, JUNE, 1916.

TERMS:

10 Cents a Copy—\$1.00 a year in Advance.

Postage free to all subscribers in the United States.

To All Foreign Countries and Canada, \$1.25.

THE GAME CONSERVATION SOCIETY, INC.
PUBLISHERS, 150 NASSAU ST., NEW YORK

D. W. HUNTINGTON, President,

F. R. PEIXOTTO, Treasurer,

J. C. HUNTINGTON, Secretary

Telephone, Beekman 3685.

SNAKES.

We invite readers of The Game Breeder, especially game-keepers, to contribute short stories about their observations of the snakes. We know from personal experience what the black snake and rattlesnake do to game birds and eggs; it is enough to call for their extermination on preserves. Although the laws may possibly protect certain snakes because they are beneficial, we are inclined to believe game keepers will follow the precedent in the Massachusetts deer case (vintage of 1730), reported in the May Game Breeder, which indicates that laws protecting deer or vermin do not apply to land owners or tenants when any damage is being done. This is good common sense. Most game keepers are unaware of laws protecting beneficial hawks, and it is gratifying to observe that the courts held, at such an early date, that the protective laws do not apply, even to food animals, when damage is done. Some legislatures have confirmed this common law principle by enacting declaratory statutes on the subject. The rule laid down by The Game Breeder in relation to the control of vermin, "carefully observe what it does and act accordingly," has become a common rule of conduct on preserves. Even the most highly recommended "beneficials," like the marsh hawk and others, are promptly hung up on the vermin rack

when they are observed to prey on game. We should like to know more about snakes.

AT IT AGAIN.

The regulations adopted under the Federal migratory bird law having created a considerable disturbance throughout the country, the Biological Survey has decided to try again and see if it cannot please the prospective criminals. Mr. H. W. Henshaw, chief of the Bureau of Biological Survey, U. S. Department of Agriculture, in a letter to The Game Breeder, inclosing a copy of the proposed regulations, says: "I trust you will give the proposed new regulations full publicity."

We will. They are published in full on another page. Before discussing the absurdities of this amateurish attempt at criminal law making, we wish to remark that there should be no objection to a simple, national law making it a crime to kill migratory song and insectivorous birds at all times (when not injurious to crops) and to shoot migratory game birds during the breeding season, provided, of course, such a law be constitutional.

Such a law should be short, simple, easily understood, uniform and universal. It should be placed in the statute books with other criminal enactments where the people who are presumed to know the law can find it.

Crime is a serious matter. The making of criminal laws should not be delegated to the doctors of medicine and ornithology, who evidently have no knowledge of the common legal principles which should underlie all criminal enactments. A great wrong is perpetrated when numerous legal snares are set and concealed which will result in innocent people being trapped by game officers and fined or imprisoned because they do not know the law. We say "concealed" advisedly, since the regulations, creating the crimes are published in a bulletin, which usually soon is out of print, and not in the statute book where one would expect to find a criminal law.

Judge Beaman, in his brief, filed in

the United States Supreme Court, when the migratory bird law was considered, emphasized the fact that a criminal enactment should not be published in a bulletin or circular. We insist that a criminal law when found should be simple and easily understood and that it should be uniform throughout the country. It should not consist of a voluminous lot of fanciful restrictions, relating to various species of birds, which are different at various times and places, even if such rules of conduct are made to please the prospective criminals in different localities after "hearings" or conferences with the promise that the law will be changed, from time to time, to please newcomers and kickers. Criminal laws should not be changed often; they should be permanent.

Our first impression after reading the proposed regulations is that the Biological Survey has gone plumb daffy on the subject of game laws; that it is unmindful of the fact that many similar rules of conduct prescribed by the States have not produced any game for the people to eat, although millions of dollars are expended annually in the effort to execute the state enactments.

Let the law be made short, simple, uniform and universal, easy to understand when found; let it prohibit the taking of song and insectivorous migrants at all times and the shooting of the migratory food birds during the nesting season; let it occupy a few lines in the statute book with other criminal enactments and we will say, Amen. We are opposed to making the United States Government appear ridiculous. We are opposed to the setting of numerous legal snares for the unwary who should at least have a fair chance of knowing what is criminal and especially where it is criminal.

CRIMINAL ABSURDITIES AND EXCEPTIONS.

Our readers will observe in the proposed migratory bird law regulations that in some localities certain wild food birds may be taken and eaten and that in other localities the taking and eating is

made illegal. Some plover and tattlers, for example, may be taken between August 15 and December 1. "Exception: In Utah the closed season shall continue until the open season in 1918." What date in 1918 is this?

Having pondered well, we fail to understand why it should be a United States crime to take a black breasted plover or a greater or lesser yellow legged tattler on one side of the Utah boundary line and not on the other side of the line. The shooter near the line surely must look out if the government fully polices the boundary and the officers know where the line runs. Possibly the survey has learned that still there are some Mormons in Utah and had this fact in mind when Utah was considered.

Other "exceptions" occur at frequent intervals. Vermont gets left on sora rails, "excluding mud hens, etc.," until the open season of 1918. Wherein Vermont has offended we do not know. Possibly the survey does not approve of an excellent State law, recently enacted, which permits the people to breed and sell all species of game.

A closed season on reed-birds or rice-birds is provided throughout the year except in some favored States—New Jersey, South Carolina and others, and the District of Columbia. A proposed crime here and not there! There and not here! Do your own guessing; and remember, if the appropriation can be increased as contemplated so as to place an army of politicians on the various lines, Uncle Sam surely will get you if you don't watch out. The bobolink is classified in regulation No. 1, subdivision (f), as an insectivorous migrant, but after he moults and changes his name, in some States he becomes a game bird. There is an open season in seven States and the District of Columbia, September 1 to October 31. A good smart game policeman, using this bird as a decoy should make a good bag of criminals by working the boundary lines between the open and closed States.

On page 4 we find a closed season for woodcock, December 1 to September 30,

except as follows: In Illinois and Missouri the closed season shall continue until the open season of 1918. On page 4 we read, "the closed season on woodcock shall be between January 1 and October 31." Probably we are now in another "zone," but our head begins to ache and we suspend the reading of the regulations until another evening, when perhaps we may undertake to learn some more prospective criminal law. Since, however, there is an evident desire to please kickers, and many are sure to kick, we are quite sure we will have to renew our studies soon after the regulations go into effect in order to keep up with the changes.

And the people are presumed to know the law!

We fail to ascertain just what the fines or jail sentences may be; possibly this information will come later in another bulletin. The courts might well declare such stuff void for uncertainty.

THE REGULATIONS AND THE GAME BREEDERS.

The Biological Survey seems to be entirely unaware that most of the States recently have amended their game laws so as to encourage the breeding of all or certain species of game for sport and for profit. The so-called "more game" movement has become of great economic importance. Many thousands of wild food birds, both migrants and non-migrants, now are owned by breeders and the proposed regulations should be amended so as to provide that the restrictions shall not apply to breeders. The States having become aware that it is wrong "to protect the game birds off the face of the earth," as the eminent naturalist, Dr. Shufeldt, has well said, it seems a pity for the National Government to step in and interfere with a great food producing industry, which Judge Beaman has said is one of the coming industries of the country.

The farmers are especially interested, since game breeding rapidly can be made a valuable by-product of agriculture. The hotel man who would serve the desirable food and the sportsmen who

would shoot it and the people who would eat it, should not be prevented by law from serving, shooting and eating food produced by industry.

Not so long ago the Biological Survey issued a bulletin calling attention to the vanishing wood-duck, a valuable food bird. Some of the States prohibited the taking of wood-duck at any time. While the wood-duck was being "protected off the earth," in America, where it is indigenous and once was abundant, it rapidly became plentiful in Belgium and Holland, where it was introduced and was not so "protected." Some game breeders now breed hundreds of wood-duck in America; one of the members of the Game Conservation Society reared over a thousand of these birds last season and says he will increase his output this year.

Regulation 4 of the proposed regulations under the Federal migratory bird law creates a closed season on wood-ducks until September 1, 1918. Since it is admitted that this bird most needs the breeders' attention, why should the incentive to produce it in good numbers be removed? Keep the "fool" game laws off of the farms where game breeders are making this bird plentiful and we will guarantee that it soon will become as abundant as it is in countries where there is more freedom from nonsense than there is in America.

When the farmers become fully aware that the Biological Survey contemplates putting an end to an industry which promises to increase the value of the farms, we imagine it will become necessary to have new conferences and new hearings on another new set of regulations. The time to attend to this important matter is now. Keep your regulations off of the game farms.

GEORGE D. PRATT.

The Game Conservation Society has decided that Mr. George D. Pratt is a mighty good game conservation commissioner and The Game Breeder has been directed to make this announcement.

The fact that Mr. Pratt favored the

new law opening the New York market to game produced by industry in other States (as recommended by The Game Breeder) is sufficient to make the New York commissioner popular with all who prefer "more game" to "more game laws." Mr. Pratt should not be blamed for only permitting the people to have certain species of game to eat. New York is the headquarters for game law nonsense. It will not be long, we are sure, before the profitable breeding and sale of all species of game is permitted.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Editor Game Breeder:

A sportsman may take out a special license for \$5.00 to bring a deer from Maine into New York. After he pays \$1.00 New York license and \$15.00 Maine non-resident license, he can get the deer home if he pays \$5.00 more. This is ridiculous. F. S.

New York City.

[Yes, if nonsense is ridiculous, when some graft is attached, it is quite ridiculous. Deer should not be so dear. There is a promising "revival of common sense" which promises to put an end to nonsense.]

Editor Game Breeder:

I wish to receive every copy of The Game Breeder, as I find it very interesting and helpful.

H. S. LITTLE.

Massachusetts.

NOTES ABOUT WILD FOWL.

BY E. D. PICKELL.

Mr. E. D. Pickell, in a letter to The Game Breeder, says he has about decided to move to a warmer climate where he can breed all varieties of wild game.

I notice he says that some Eastern breeders claim that mallard drakes will mate with four females; that sounds strange to me. In all my years of experience with wild mallards I have never known of a *genuine* wild mallard drake to mate up in the spring with more than one female of the *genuine* wild variety. I have had them kill one female when I tried to mate them with two.

Of course you can find scattered all over this country breeders who claim to

have genuine wild mallards. I bought a bunch of such birds four years ago. After I had paid the express and got them out of the crates I was so disgusted that (I won't say what I said) they quickly went the way of the market duck.

I have never been able to mate any variety of wild ducks or geese with more than one male of genuine wild blood. Neither have I ever known of a genuine wild mallard female laying when only one year old. I have known pintailed ducks to do so but never a mallard.

I notice in my letter in the March Game Breeder an error which I wish you would correct. I wrote you of my pair of hybrid geese. The paragraph reads, "my white-fronted gander crossed with a Canada goose." It should have read, "a white-fronted gander crossed with a Canada goose." I got them from the Evans Game Farm in Illinois. Please correct this and give Mr. Evans the credit which belongs to him.

=

Good News From Canada.

One of our Canadian readers writes that the minister in charge of game for the Province of Quebec has decided that he will issue licenses to any responsible persons who wish to go into the business of game breeding and they may acquire specimens of the various birds.

Mr. Chambers, he says, has suggested that a license be made out in the name of the writer without any charge whatever, as a starter.

A good start, surely.

=

Trap Shooting Leagues.

We have received from the Du Pont Powder Company, Wilmington, Delaware, a very good book about "Trap Shooting Leagues." Since all of the game clubs have traps and shoot many clay pigeons our readers will be interested in this book. It is for free distribution. Write for it if you want it.

The laws should promptly be amended everywhere so as to permit the profitable breeding of all species of game.



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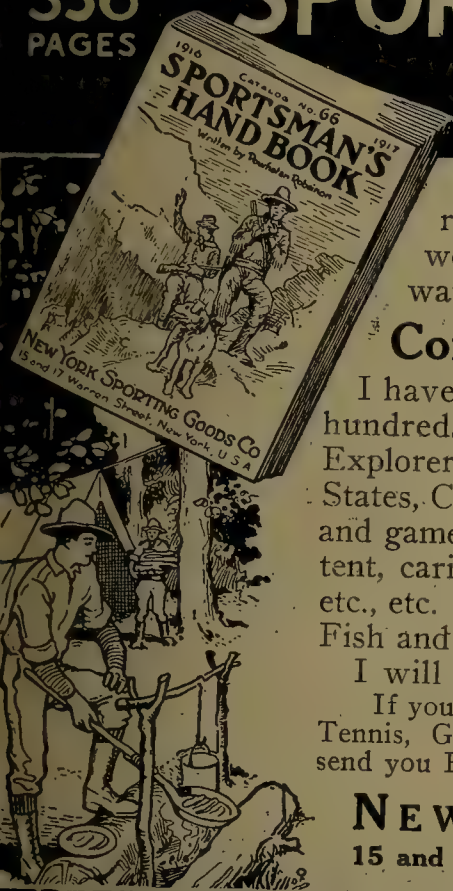
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STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, OF THE GAME BREEDER, published monthly at New York, N. Y., for April 1st, 1916.

STATE of New York } ss.:
COUNTY of New York }

Before me, a notary public in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared D. W. Huntington, who having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Editor of The Game Breeder, and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management, etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in section 443, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:

Name of—

Publisher—The Game Conservation Society, Inc., 150 Nassau St., New York, N. Y.

Editor—D. W. Huntington, 150 Nassau St., New York, N. Y.

Managing Editor—None.

Business Managers—The Game Conservation Society, Inc., 150 Nassau St., New York, N. Y.

2. That the owners are:

The Game Conservation Society, Inc., 150 Nassau St., New York, N. Y.

STOCKHOLDERS—C. B. Davis, Grantwood, New Jersey.

F. R. Peixotto, 55 John St., New York, N. Y.

A. A. Hill, 71 Murray St., New York, N. Y.

D. W. Huntington, 150 Nassau St., New York, N. Y.

J. C. Huntington, 150 Nassau St., New York, N. Y.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: None.

4. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting, is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner; and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds, or other securities than as so stated by him.

D. W. HUNTINGTON, Editor.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 28th day of March, 1916.

SEAL

George F. Bentley,
Notary Public, 167.

(My commission expires March 30th, 1916.)

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

Announcements inserted under this head in small type for 2 cents per word. If displayed in heavy type, 5 cents per word. No advertisement accepted for less than 30 cents. Postage stamps accepted in payment.

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WILD TURKEYS—For prices see display advertisement in this issue. W. J. MACKENSEN, Yardley, Bucks County, Pa.

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THE

GAME BREEDER

VOL. IX.

JULY, 1916

No. 4

THE OBJECT OF THIS MAGAZINE IS
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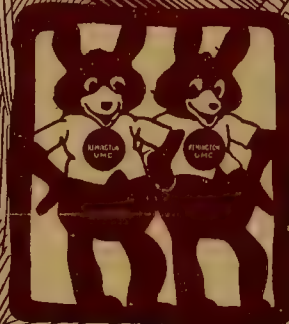
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The Game Breeder

Published Monthly. Entered as second-class matter, July 9, 1915, at the Post Office, New York City, New York, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

VOLUME IX

JULY, 1916

NUMBER 4



SURVEY OF THE FIELD.

Good Work in Iowa.

One of our Iowa readers says the last Legislature of Iowa was the first to make any provision for game breeding in this State; the amendment provides:

"Any person desiring to engage in the business of raising and selling pheasants, wild duck, quail and other game birds or any of them in a wholly enclosed preserve or enclosure of which he is the owner or lessee, may make application in writing to the State Fish and Game Warden for a license so to do. That the State Fish and Game Warden, when it shall appear that such application is made in good faith, shall upon the payment of an annual fee of \$2 issue to such applicant a breeder's license permitting such applicant to breed and raise the above described game birds or other game birds, or any of them, on such preserve or enclosure; and to sell the same alive at any time for breeding or stocking purposes; and to kill and use the same; or sell same for food. Such license must be renewed annually upon the payment of the fee as hereinbefore set forth and the possession of such license shall exempt the license holder from the penalties of this chapter for killing, having in possession or selling the game birds or any of them set forth in this section; provided that said birds have been bred and raised upon the said preserve or within said enclosure by the license holder or secured by him by purchase from without the State of Iowa."

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An Educational Game Farm.

Mr. E. C. Hinshaw, the State Fish and Game Warden, says he is endeavoring to build and maintain a large game farm

and run it in a way to use it as an educational place for those who are interested in that line of work. He also writes: "We are doing considerable in the way of destroying vermin around the game reserves where we are stocking the place with birds and hope to arrange so that all of these places will be patrolled not only for the protection of the birds from hunters but for the destroying of those things that are enemies of bird life."

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The Iowa Game Department.

The Iowa State game department should soon become of great economic importance to all the people of the State. Those who shoot will find the shooting much improved just as it has been in Massachusetts and other States where many people are engaged in breeding game for profit as well as for sport. The people of Iowa soon will have an abundance of game to eat during long open seasons. The hotels will be pleased to learn that soon they can serve game to their guests and the dealers will be quite willing to sell the desirable food.

It is to be hoped that the Iowa game farm will plant fields especially for the prairie grouse and quail and will demonstrate that it is an easy matter to have these birds abundant and evenly distributed in every field on a farm and that the abundance will not only be found detrimental to agriculture but highly beneficial. The cost of rearing quail and grouse in a wild state is very small when compared with the hand rearing of pheasants since the wild bred birds will find most of their food in the fields and woods. We predict that Iowa soon will become a big game producing State

and that the game when properly handled will add much to the value of the farms.

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To the Members of the Senate:

A communication, addressed to the United States Senate, from the New Mexico Game Protective Association, and signed by Miles W. Burford and Robert E. Dietz, the president and secretary, contains the following as published in *The Sportsmen's Review*:

The Agricultural Appropriation Bill, bearing an appropriation of \$50,000 for the enforcement of the Federal Migratory Bird Law, will soon come before the Senate. Because this law restricts their shooting privileges and prevents the old and fatal practice of "spring shooting," the Interstate "Sportsmen's" Association, headed by Missouri, will launch an attack seeking to kill this law by defeating the appropriation for its enforcement. Failing this, they will, according to their announced intention, seek its repeal.

This law is the most important single item of progressive game legislation in the United States, and this attack menaces the interests of 5,000,000 American sportsmen and of all generations to come. Our association, representing 1,000 New Mexico sportsmen, most earnestly urges you, and all other progressive Senators, to

1. Be on the "firing line."
2. Stand for the migratory bird law.
3. Expose the Missouri lobby.
4. Defeat the "game hogs" once for all, and more than that, give the Secretary of Agriculture \$100,000 with which to enforce this just law.

When we apply the term "game hog" to the leaders of the Interstate Sportsmen's Association, we speak not lightly nor abusively, but with earnest regret based on full knowledge of the facts. A bare outline of their arguments and actions ought to convince any unprejudiced students of facts of the cynical selfishness which underlies this movement. We will try to be very brief.

Here follows a lengthy argument that the law has caused an increase in wild fowl; that all the District Courts have not declared it unconstitutional; that quail cannot stand a long open season, etc.

Mr. A. D. Holthouse, of St. Louis, in the same publication, points out that the New Mexico sportsmen might secure a State law protecting song birds and stopping the spring shooting of wild fowl.

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The Game Breeders' Interest.

We have pointed out that game breed-

ers should be excepted from the provisions of the migratory bird law as they now are from many State protective laws. Rapidly they are making the game plentiful and they are sending the food they produce to the markets. We can hardly believe it possible that Congress will appropriate \$100,000 or any other sum to enforce the criminal absurdities promulgated by the Biological Survey until they have been amended so as to provide that they shall not apply to a big food producing industry which many States are encouraging by game breeders enactments. If the law shall be declared constitutional we sincerely hope it can be made to except those who produce game birds. It would seem to be wise to let the courts pass on it before appropriating a large sum to execute the proposed criminal absurdities.

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Hen Pheasants.

A writer in *The Oregon Sportsman* favors the law prohibiting the shooting of hen pheasants and says:

We have several times seen a cat attack a hen pheasant, and yet make no effort to spring at a big male bird. In other words, out of twenty hens and twenty males in the wild state the chances are that not one of the cocks would be caught or killed by hawks, owls, cats and some of the other predatory animals, where ten or twelve of the females would be killed. After the first few days of the shooting season the cocks become much wilder than the females. They are more able to take care of themselves while the females lie closer to a dog and are more likely to be killed. Every sportsman, therefore, or any other person interested in the real protection of the Chinese Pheasant and keeping up the future supply, should refrain from killing hen pheasants.

In the first place the Chinese Pheasants are polygamous in nature. They are entirely polygamous when kept in captivity and they are to a large extent polygamous in the wild state. If there are as many cocks as hens in the wild state, the birds will pair off, yet if there are more hens than cocks the hens will be cared for much the same as they are in the tame state where a cock is kept in a pen with from four to six females.

The most vital reason why the hen should not be killed is that she is a smaller bird than the cock and less able to protect herself in the wild state. At the State Game Farm, for instance, where cocks and hens are kept in an open field, they are sometimes attacked by hawks and owls. In over thirty birds that were caught in this field by hawks and owls,

every single one was a hen. Although the cock stands out in the open, he is strong and big and able to protect himself, while the hen is not.

Since on another page in the same publication the statement is made, quoting the Silverton Appeal, that "the days of the hunting dog are numbered," we think it would be a good plan for the State Game Department to suggest to the county rod and gun clubs that they arrange with the farmers to have some good shooting on the farms at both hens and cocks with the aid of good dogs. Every game protective association should have a good shooting ground for its members and the farmers can furnish the ground as they now do in other States at reasonable rates.

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Survey of Our Field.

The country is so big that there is plenty of room even for a few thousand more game laws, state, provincial, national, migratory, etc., etc. All we ask is that they be kept off of the farms used for game. As an experiment, a few of them might be applied to poultry. At the end of a year or two, at most, there would not be a single fowl alive. There is plenty of room for the quiet refuges for game where foxes and other vermin can feast on it. Our field really seems to be a narrow one. We only concern ourselves about the interests of those who wish to have an abundance of game and game fish for sport or for profit. Being specialists, however, we are always on the job. We help to reform the laws; we help create game farms, shoots and preserves; we plan for many small breeders, and we see that every one who wants game or game fish is sure to have an abundance, and that those who sell game get good prices.

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Advice to Game Breeders.

Game breeders who advertise in the magazine should remember that it is persistent advertising which pays. No matter if one has sold out he should not drop out of sight on that account. He surely will find his customers making new acquaintances and purchasing elsewhere. Without much trouble an advertiser can

procure from another reliable breeder the eggs or birds which his customer wants and often he can make at least a small profit on the transaction since breeders often are willing to accommodate each other. We are sure from what they have told us that those who keep in all the time have better results than those who only send an advertisement at certain seasons. Prospective customers are most likely to send orders to those whose advertisements are always before them.

The magazine is doing a big work for its advertisers, opening whole States to the game breeding industry and reducing the restrictions everywhere. Advertisers who appreciate this work advertise by the year.

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Advice to Members.

Members of the Game Conservation Society should and, we believe, to a large extent, they do patronize those who support the magazine by advertising in it. When we go to visit the numerous game clubs we are always pleased to find the shooters using the birds, eggs, foods, guns and ammunition advertised in *The Game Breeder*.

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The Ohio Fox.

In comments upon the State game laws appears the statement that it is against the law to kill or injure foxes in Ohio, says J. W. Lippincott. Is there any wild fox, he asks, that does not destroy more birds, more four-footed game animals and more chickens than a hawk? These things, he says, may become live issues in other States and it is well to carefully consider them.

Since many game protective associations have developed a wonderful appetite for game laws among many sportsmen it seems impossible to secure any simple uniform and stable laws relating to the taking of game and the control of vermin. All we ask is to keep the game laws and the vermin laws off of the game farms and preserves where game is plentiful and where restrictive laws if they should be executed or obeyed surely would exterminate the game. We have arranged in many States to have game breeders' enactments which in effect exempt the places where game is made plen-

tiful from the ever-changing game, fox, hawk, crow and other vermin enactments which are a never failing delight to those who prefer the game law industry to game breeding or field sports.

We regard it as a fine thing to see the game rapidly restored to the market. It has added much to the value of many country places. We would advise Mr. Lippincott to cease thinking about whether the things he refers to, "may become live issues in other States," and to devote his energies to seeing that the farms which have game become exempt from the ever changing "live issues," which too often destroy the value of country places which should receive an excellent revenue from their game.

No Animal Heads in Mails.

Reno, Nev., March 25.—Coyote and wild cat heads by parcel post proved too much for the patience of Fred L. White, postmaster of Reno, and he took the question of the right to make such shipments by mail up with the Postmaster General. He has just received information that such articles are not mailable and cannot be delivered if mailed. The heads have been coming in lately in large numbers from different parts of the States. They are sent in to the State University for examination for rabies.—The World, New York.

Parcel Post Shipments of Game.

The Fish and Game Commission has been making such a strenuous fight against the market hunters who ship their game to the San Francisco markets by express, that it has become exceedingly dangerous for the shippers to send illegally shipped birds by that method; the chances of having them confiscated are too many. Some of the hunters for a time resorted to the mails, sending birds by parcel post, knowing that the deputies of the Commission did not have the same opportunity to inspect postal shipments as they did express.

Investigation showed that according to the California law, all game offered for shipment must be at all times in open view. The postal regulations provide that game must be carefully wrapped in order to prevent damage to other mail

matter. But the United States regulations also provide that all game offered for shipment must be strictly in accord with all of the provisions of the State laws.

How these conflicting provisions have been brought into accord is explained by the following letter received from the post office department at Washington:

Washington, D. C., Jan. 28, 1916.

Fish and Game Commission,
Mills Building,
San Francisco, California.

Gentlemen: Receipt is acknowledged of your communication of the 17th instant advising this office that

"Section 627b of the Penal Code of the State of California provides that game offered for shipment or transportation must be at all times in open view."

In reply I have to say that the Act of Congress of March 4, 1909, 35 Stat. 1137, embodied in section 477½, Postal Laws and Regulations, a copy of which is enclosed, prohibits the shipment of dead bodies, or parts thereof, of any game animals or birds killed or offered for shipment in violation of the laws of the State, territory or district in which killed or offered for shipment, and since the laws of the State of California do not permit the shipment of the dead bodies of animals or birds when wrapped, postmasters in that State must, of course, govern themselves accordingly. The dead bodies of wild animals or birds may be accepted for transmission in the mails only when wrapped so as to prevent injury to other mail, and it is not practicable to handle shipments of such matter by parcel post in the manner required by the California laws.

Respectfully,

(Signed) A. M. DOCKERY,
Third Assistant Postmaster General.
—California Fish and Game.

Old Corn.

Almost as much interest is being manifested in Kansas over some Aztec corn 1,000 years old as would be stirred up in Kentucky upon the receipt of some corn juice of similar antiquity.—Arkansas Gazette.

THE BLACK SIBERIAN HARE.

By A. GOLDBERG.

I have read with interest the article written by my old friend and countryman, Mr. Shacknoe, on the black Siberian hare.

Mr. Shacknoe claims Siberia as the habitat of the animal known in America as the Siberian hare; while in reality it is a rabbit (probably the Patagonian rabbit) which was imported into Siberia some sixty years ago, and by human selection, taking advantage of the cold climate, it was changed and improved till it reached its present appearance. The slouchy and ugly ears dropping forward, over the eyes, would be straightened up by the coldness of the climate, as the ears of the lop-eared rabbit become straightened and erect when bred for three generations in Siberia.

When black or silver-gray sports were produced, they were kept for breeding purposes, and as like begets like, the whole flock soon became either black or silver gray.

The desire to breed for these colors was actuated by the higher prices their owners would get for their pelts. They also breed from the largest animals as the flesh of this rabbit is delicious to eat and the owners wanted more of it.

My theory is that the changes in the animal were made by human selection for personal gain, and it was not caused by the beautiful scientific natural selection, aided by large birds of prey, as so profoundly described by Mr. Shacknoe in his article on the natural history of the Siberian hare. The fact of the matter is that there is no rabbit indigenous to Siberia and only three hares, all of which are gray in summer and white in winter.

My grandfather, who was a careful and close observer of animals, remembered distinctly when the large Patagonian rabbit was first imported to Si-

beria. He often explained to me the effect the cold climate had on the drooping ears, and the many other changes that took place from generation to generation as years went on, and now, we find, Mr. Shacknoe writing it up as a native of Siberia and giving it the character of a wild hare when it is really a tame rabbit, a few of which have been turned out to take care of themselves and have become semi-wild.

Mr. Shacknoe gives a very interesting story of the way in which this rabbit prepares for her young, their customs and habits in a wild state. Why, this is not peculiar to the Siberian rabbit. Turn the Belgian hare or common rabbit out wild and they would act identically as Mr. Shacknoe describes this rabbit does.

In conversation with a gentleman, who turned out a flock of Belgian hares on an island in Canada, this gentleman, who has read Mr. Shacknoe's account of the Siberian in its natural state, says it is identical as his rabbits acted, when turned wild on the island; therefore, this is nothing new—but it is the nature of any rabbit to act so when turned out wild.

Now, in conclusion, may I say that I have no wish to injure the reputation of my countryman, or the business of those who have imported these rabbits to this country, but I write to correct the errors in Mr. Shacknoe's article. I have seen some of these rabbits in this country that were imported from Siberia and I consider them fairly good specimens and equal to those I have seen in my native country. I believe they are now superior to all other utility rabbits, as the fur is valuable as well as the flesh, but it must be remembered that their excellent qualities were obtained by breeding in Siberia's cold climate for in this climate the fur will deteriorate equally as fast as it improved in Siberia.



FISH RAISING FOR THE AVERAGE FARMER.

Since the time when primitive man first discovered the edible quality of fish, angling has been a favorite diversion. It has been a pastime in which men of wealth and those compelled to toil for a living have found equal pleasure and is pronounced by enthusiastic disciples of Isaak Walton to be the king of sports.

So fascinating, indeed, has this pastime been that men of wealth the world over have spent large sums of money in purchasing and stocking inland lakes and anglers of more modest means are apparently willing to undergo all sorts of inconveniences in order to spend a day with the line and rod.

Both the State and the Federal Governments have been expending considerable money in stocking inland lakes and rivers in order that angling may not become a pastime that may be indulged in by the rich only, and the Department of Commerce in a recent publication has added to the piscatorial literature a pamphlet setting forth explicit directions whereby almost every farmer may propagate fish at little expense.

According to the pamphlet prepared by Robert S. Johnson and M. F. Stapleton of the Bureau of Fisheries, the propagation of fish on farms in artificially constructed ponds or in natural ponds of limited area is perfectly feasible, and with proper management such ponds will afford a convenient and economical food supply that will justify the expense of their construction of preparation and maintenance.

In calling attention to the possibility for farmers of the country to establish a readily accessible supply of fresh fish that may be drawn upon when desired the bureau emphasizes the fact that the natural and favorable water areas existing on countless farms may be utilized for the purpose. Many of these water areas are now unsightly wastes, such as marshes and swamps that detract from the value of the land and serve no useful purpose.

The authors assert that the presence of springs, lakes, flowing wells or ad-

jacent streams are all leading incentives to a fishery project and suitable sites for the construction of ponds, especially if at present unremunerative, should make their use to such a purpose desirable to the thrifty husbandman after a full comprehension of their possibilities in a fish-cultural way.

Ponds intended for the cultivation of fish may be conveniently located for the watering of stock or the overflow therefrom may be utilized for the irrigation of land. In many sections of the United States artificial ponds on farms are an absolute necessity to serve one or both of these latter purposes, and by a merely nominal expenditure such water areas may be advantageously utilized for the growing of fish without interfering in any way with the original uses for which they were intended.

In a brood pond, says the bulletin, a constant water level should be maintained at all times, especially during the breeding season. The required flow, which will vary with the character of the soil, must be sufficient to replace loss by evaporation and seepage. An amount just short of overflowing the pond is the ideal to be attained, as it is desirable to avoid a current.

For a one acre pond, where the sides and bottom are of clay or rich loam, a flow of from 30 to 50 gallons a minute should be sufficient to maintain a proper water level at all times, while sandy or gravel soil untreated may require double that amount.

Springs are the most dependable of all sources of water supply requiring the minimum expenditure in preparation, and being the least subject to outside influence. The presence of injurious mineral substances can usually be detected without expert analysis, but even pure water very frequently carries abnormal proportions of oxygen or nitrogen gases in quantities inimical to fish life.

This abnormal condition of the water may be corrected by holding it for a time in a reservoir before letting it into the pond in which the fish are placed, and

where there is insufficient room for the construction of the reservoir a partial correction of the abnormal condition may be brought about by conducting the water into the fish pond through open ditches or raceways of wood or concrete.

The chief objection to creek and river water as a supply for fish culture is the quantity of mud and debris carried during freshets and the excessive cost of effective measures to prevent its introduction into the ponds. Streams subject to an extremely high water period are totally impracticable as a source of supply for artificial ponds.

The water from these streams may be utilized, however, by conducting the

water to ponds located some distance away, providing the intake is adequately screened, the supply arranged so that it can be cut off during times of excessive turbidity and measures taken to prevent the inundation of the pond site in high water periods.

The source of water supply may also be taken from lakes, wells, or from so-called sky-ponds which are dependent upon local precipitation for their supply of water.

The exact mode of construction must depend largely upon local conditions, such as the presence or absence of favorable land contour and the nature of the soil.—Providence Journal.

HOW TO ORGANIZE A GAME BREEDING ASSOCIATION.

PART II.

BY DWIGHT W. HUNTINGTON.

The shooting rent, provided it be 10 cents per acre, will amount to \$64 per square mile per annum. I know many places where the rent paid is only 5 cents per acre.

A club of 25 members should have at least 1,200 or 1,500 acres and the shooting rent therefore should be not over \$120 or \$150 per year. A club with small dues should not undertake any hand rearing. It should employ a beat-keeper for each 1,200 to 1,500 acres and see that he looks after the game breeding wild in every field. A few pheasants can be purchased in the fall and liberated for the shooting. Those not killed will probably nest wild if the vermin be kept down and the food and covers be kept plentiful.

Some of the inexpensive clubs employ a keeper to trap vermin and look after the game, the wages being from \$50 to \$75 per month. At some clubs the keeper is only employed part of the time, but the shooting, of course, is not as good as it should be, excepting in a few favored localities where much game occurs in a wild state and where the

vermin easily is controlled. Stock birds are usually purchased with money paid as initiation fees, which usually are equal to or larger than the annual dues.

A club with 30 or 40 members and with annual dues at from \$35 to \$50 per year easily can provide some excellent quail and grouse shooting, and if a few wild turkeys be liberated in safe covers, some wild turkey shooting can be added for good measure. Some clubs have many members who shoot very little or not at all; the last named are termed "preferred stockholders," since they contribute to provide shooting for others. This is much better than contributing money to secure more laws prohibiting shooting. The preferred stockholders should have a little game sent to them from time to time and it will be found not difficult to procure this class of members.

The simplest and cheapest club can be well run with dues as low as \$30 per annum, the members using a local hotel or farm-house for their quarters. By far the better plan, however, is to make the dues \$50 and to see that the mem-

bers get at least \$50 worth of meat, as they can if the club be properly managed. A few pheasants can be purchased in the fall to supplement the quail, grouse and rabbit shooting and some of the game can be sold if it is deemed advisable to reduce the amount of the dues.

The most inexpensive club should count on a yearly expenditure of at least \$100 for the rent of the shooting and \$600 for a beat-keeper. A small amount should be expended also for grain and other foods to be planted for the game and in bad winters some winter food should be provided. I know some clubs which have very fair shooting (without fear of exterminating the game), whose annual expenses are not larger than I have indicated. In some cases small voluntary assessments or collections of \$5 or \$10 are made to buy some extra game. No hand-rearing of pheasants or wild ducks should be undertaken by clubs with small dues unless the membership be larger and considerable game is reared to be sold when shot.

Much depends upon the place selected for the shoot. Some places are suitable to game and easily can be made to yield abundantly. On some places the control of vermin is comparatively an easy matter. In some places it is almost impossible to keep down the vermin without employing a number of keepers. Some fields contain both natural foods and covers; on vast areas such as the closely cultivated areas in the prairie States most of the fields are unsafe and uninhabitable because there are no foods or covers at certain seasons of the year. In places where agriculture has waned and there are many abandoned farms, the shooting rent will be very small, but the cost of keeping down the vermin will be larger than it is in places where the lands are closely cultivated, but in many of the last named places it will be found necessary to provide small covers and special plantings of food for the game. Those in charge of the club should know what must be done and should see that the game keeper does it.

A REAL RABBIT DRIVE.

By WARDEN J. W. WALDEN, La Grande, Oregon.

Thinking that a description of our big rabbit drive that took place on Sunday, December 12, might be of some interest to the readers of *The Sportsmen*, will try and give a few details of same.

The Wing, Fin and Fleetwood Gun Club of La Grande was invited by the North Powder Rod and Gun Club of North Powder, Oregon, to take part in a big rabbit drive, which was pulled off on the Telocaset plains.

About forty of the Wing, Fin and Fleetwood Club were met at the train by the North Powder Gun Club, and were immediately taken by teams to the Telocaset plains, where the hunters were placed in skirmish line, and the hunt began. In all there were about 100 in line and the constant rattle of shotguns was not only deafening, but such as to

lay low about 2,000 rabbits. Men on horseback and with wagons followed to pick up the choicest victims. About 1,000 rabbits were brought back to North Powder.

At noon coffee, sandwiches, pies and other good things were served by the North Powder Club. After the hunting was over, the hunters were entertained at a fine banquet by the local club. This was an affair that will be long remembered by all those who were fortunate enough to be present at this banquet.

There were 800 rabbits sacked up by the Wing, Fin and Fleetwood Club and shipped to La Grande and turned over to the Salvation Army, where distribution took place. The finishing touch will be on Wednesday night, December 22, when the big annual "Hassenpfeffer" will be

pulled off, with the Wing, Fin and Fleetwood Club as hosts.

I wish to say a few words in praise of the Wing, Fin and Fleetwood Club of La Grande. This club has about 200 members, and every one of them is a live wire, standing strictly for the enforcement of the game laws. They always have their ear to the ground listening for the footsteps of some game violator. This club should be proud of the gentlemen they have selected as their officers, such as L. M. Hoyt, president; Pat Foley, vice-president; A. A. Wentzel,

secretary; C. R. Harding, treasurer. These gentlemen never shirk their duty, never say no to anything that is for the benefit of the conditions of the game and fish laws. They are always ready night and day to assist me as Deputy Game Warden of Union County in prosecuting any violator, whoever he may be.

[There is a big demand for rabbits to restock the game farms and preserves in the Eastern States. We would suggest that the members of the Oregon Clubs write to the advertisers in The Game Breeder and offer them some rabbits in exchange for wild ducks and pheasants.—Editor.]

GEORGE A. LAWYER, ADMINISTRATOR OF FEDERAL GAME LAWS.

By DAVID F. LANE.

George A. Lawyer, a young attorney, a native and resident of Watertown, N. Y., was recently appointed to a po-



George A. Lawyer.

the United States, Alaska and the Hawaiian Islands, and he has already begun his duties in Washington. The position carries a salary of three thousand two hundred and fifty dollars and expenses, and while Mr. Lawyer will have to do with game preservation generally, he will particularly look after the enforcement of the Federal Migratory Bird Law. So far as game is concerned, he will have charge of all of the national parks and preserves in the country, and there are sixty or more game preserves in the United States in which a kinds of animals, birds and fish are kept.

During recent years there has been a great awakening among the sportsmen of the United States and movements have been started to stimulate game propagation. At the same time the trend of action has been to secure the proper protection. When the Federal Agricultural Department was granted the necessary appropriations by Congress in 1913, to enforce the Federal Migratory Bird Regulations, which became effective in 1914, every State was back of the project, but since then there has been some dissatisfaction. However, sportsmen throughout the length and breadth of the land should now take courage, for the outlook for better game conditions under the Federal Migratory Bird Regulations

sition under the Department of Agriculture, giving him charge of the administration of game laws throughout

promises better conditions than ever existed without it.

Mr. Lawyer has always been a sportsman. He was born in Watertown September 15, 1876, and it is related of him that when a small boy in knee trousers he frequently played hookey at school and betook himself to some quiet trout stream, with the appearance of the first warm days of spring. When he got older he developed a desire for partridge hunting. Since then he has never lost an opportunity to test his wits with the birds, the beasts and the fish.

In 1894 Mr. Lawyer was graduated from the Watertown High School. On September 30, 1897, he was admitted to the bar and opened an office of his own, continuing the practice of law up to the present time.

Realizing the necessity for some organization for better protection of game propagation in Jefferson County, New York, in the fall of 1908, thirteen sportsmen assembled in the office of Mr. Lawyer and organized the Jefferson County Sportsmen's Association, choosing him as its first president. This position he held for four years, and during the first two the membership grew from thirteen to eight hundred.

Four years ago, about the time that he relinquished the presidency of this association, he was chosen president of the New York State Fish, Game and Forest League, a state organization for the furthering of better game laws and game conditions. This position he also held for four years, refusing to accept it again at the annual election held a few months ago.

As the head of the New York State Fish, Game and Forest League during the same year, Mr. Lawyer started a campaign for more game farms—there being but one in the state at that time—located at Sherburne. Governor Glynn granted him a conference, and at the head of a delegation of sportsmen, about two hundred and fifty strong, he went before the governor at the time appointed armed with a brief prepared in detail showing the amount paid to the State each year by hunters for licenses, and the small return that the State gave them

for this revenue. He showed the commercial and economic value of these farms to the hotels and railroads and made it plain that the sportsmen were going to begin a vigorous campaign to have the hunting license law repealed if something were not done.

Four new game farms were asked. The governor promised that he would favor a bill that provided for two, on the understanding that no location in particular be specified. He agreed not to sign any bill of a local nature should one pass the legislature and be presented to him. The bill was prepared and \$15,000 each for two game farms appropriated. One of these was established at Dexter, Jefferson County, and last year four thousand pheasants and twenty-five thousand pheasant eggs were distributed for propagation, while at Sherburne the number was five thousand birds and twenty-five thousand eggs. The second farm provided for in the bill has been established on Long Island, and this year it is expected that fifteen thousand birds and seventy-five thousand eggs (from all the farms) for stocking covers will be distributed.

It was Mr. Lawyer that brought pheasants into northern New York, when he formed his county sportsmen's association, for until then these game birds were not known in that section of the State. Now there are fully ten thousand birds in the covers. At the beginning Mr. Lawyer raised many of these birds himself, and even now has a small number of fancy breeds.

No man better qualified for the position to which he has just been appointed could have been chosen.

Concerning the Federal Migratory Bird Law, of which he will have the administration, Mr. Lawyer has ideas which are sensible and which will be so regarded by every sportsman in the country. He proposes to see that the law is enforced and the government protected, but in the minds of those who know him there is no question but that the sportsmen as well as the government will be satisfied with him and his acts.

Co-operation is the thing he proposes to strive for in carrying out his work,

and to get this, he will seek the confidence of the sportsmen of every state in the Union. That he is deserving of their confidence, the sportsmen will soon learn.

In discussing game matters, Mr. Lawyer made it definite to the writer that he proposes to work with the States in protecting game, rather than against them. So far as climatic conditions will permit, there will be uniformity of regulations. At present under the Federal Migratory Bird Law, the United States is divided into two zones—the breeding zone, which embraces the twenty-five states between the two oceans and north of the fortieth parallel of latitude and the Ohio River, and the wintering zone,

which includes the twenty-three States below this line.

Besides having charge of the administration of all of the game laws of the United States, Mr. Lawyer will look after the preparation of rules that fix the open and closed seasons. That he is fitted for the position is evidenced by the fact that it came to him unsought. He was highly recommended by Secretary of Agriculture David F. Houston, who consulted with several influential men before offering the appointment, and it is not unlikely that a good word was spoken for him by Secretary of State Robert Lansing, for Mr. Lawyer is a staunch Democrat and hails from Mr. Lansing's home city—and besides, Mr. Lansing is a sportsman.

THREE IMPORTANT WILD DUCK FOODS.

By W. L. McATEE.

[The following is from an important bulletin issued by the Biological Survey, United States Department of Agriculture.]

The vegetable food of wild ducks includes a large variety of plants, of which three have been found of especial importance. These three are wild rice, wild celery and pondweeds.

Wild celery beds and wild rice marshes have long been recognized as important features of ducking grounds. Less widely known, but not less important, are the submerged plants known as pondweeds. In the case of sixteen of the most important species of game ducks whose stomachs have been examined, wild celery, wild rice and pondweeds collectively compose 25.31 per cent. of the total food. The percentages of these foods consumed by the various species are given in the accompanying table. Too much reliance, however, should not be placed on these percentages, since the number of stomachs of some species is none too great, and examination of a larger number may necessitate material changes in the figures.

To many it may appear that the average percentages of wild rice and wild celery

eaten by ducks are low, but it must be remembered that these foods are by no means universally distributed, nor are they accessible at all times of the year. Although on first thought a percentage of less than 5 for wild rice may seem small, it really means that these 16 species of ducks get a twentieth of their annual subsistence from this grain; in other words, the quantity they eat would support them for two and a half weeks if wild rice were fed upon exclusively. Similarly, wild celery, which forms 6.65 per cent. of their food, would suffice for three and a half weeks, and pondweeds which form 13.88 per cent., for more than seven weeks.

The fact that wild celery and wild rice, although naturally of local and restricted distribution, may be grown in suitable places over the whole United States should be more widely known. There is no doubt that by transplanting and sowing the seeds of these and other plants used by ducks for food many depleted ducking grounds can be restored

and new grounds can be created. This means much in the effort to preserve our valuable wild ducks. In the present circular it is proposed to give a brief statement of the value of the three plants as duck food, to show by means of description and illustration how each may be recognized, and to explain where and how each may be propagated.

Pondweeds.

Referring to the tabulation of duck food (above), it will be seen that pondweeds (Potamogeton) compose a greater percentage of the food of the 16 species there mentioned than wild rice and wild

Thus it constitutes a slightly greater proportion of the subsistence of the bird than wild celery. The importance of this plant was pointed out several years ago by Mr. H. L. Skavlem, of Janesville, Wis., who found that at Lake Koshkonong its tubers formed from 60 to 80 per cent. of the canvasback's food.

Besides the tubers on the roots, some pondweeds have winter buds among the leaves, and these, as well as the seeds, rootstocks, and indeed the whole plant, are eaten by ducks. As many as 350 tubers and no fewer than 560 seeds have been found in single stomachs. Pondweeds are really staple food for

Percentages of the food of sixteen species of wild ducks provided by wild rice, wild celery, and pondweeds.

Common name.	Scientific name.	Number of stomachs examined.	Per cent of total contents composed of—			
			Wild rice.	Wild celery.	Pondweeds.	Total of the three.
Mallard.....	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	209	17.13	2.48	12.67	32.28
Black duck.....	<i>Anas rubripes</i>	51	12.05	2.37	8.35	22.77
Gadwall.....	<i>Chauliasmus streperus</i>	37			17.64	17.64
Baldpate.....	<i>Mareca americana</i>	30	7.16	10.00	13.71	30.87
Green-winged teal.....	<i>Nettion carolinense</i>	126	4.56	.69	10.32	15.57
Blue-winged teal.....	<i>Querquedula discors</i>	86	3.46	.20	9.83	13.49
Shoveler.....	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>	49			7.83	7.83
Pintail.....	<i>Dafila acuta</i>	67	4.95	1.80	13.39	20.14
Wood duck.....	<i>Aiz sponsa</i>	75	11.62	3.17	6.72	21.51
Redhead.....	<i>Marila americana</i>	60	4.41	11.71	24.38	40.50
Canvasback.....	<i>Marila vailisneria</i>	60	.33	23.71	42.35	66.39
Scaup, or bluebill.....	<i>Marila marila</i>	67	1.26	14.46	23.20	38.92
Lesser scaup, or bluebill.....	<i>Marila affinis</i>	126	7.49	17.53	8.18	33.20
Goldeneye.....	<i>Clangula c. americana</i>	23		2.95	6.56	9.51
Bufflehead.....	<i>Charitonetta albeola</i>	36	2.22	5.66	4.46	12.34
Ruddy duck.....	<i>Erismatura jamaicensis</i>	41		9.54	12.56	22.10
Average.....			4.78	6.65	13.88	25.31

celery together. This is owing to the wider distribution of pondweeds, allowing ducks to feed on them in winter as well as during migration and in the breeding season. There are no fewer than 38 species of pondweeds in the United States, of which at least 9 (figs. 9-17) are of practically universal distribution. One of the latter number, the fennel-leaved or sago pondweed (*P. pectinatus*, fig. 17), produces numerous tubers (fig. 18) upon the rootstocks, which are eagerly sought by certain ducks. This one species makes up five-eighths of the whole amount of pondweeds eaten by the canvasback and more than a fourth of the entire food of the bird.

ducks, and nothing is more common in the stomachs than the seeds of these plants. As mentioned above, there are many species of pondweeds, and they present quite a diversity of forms. Illustrations (figs. 9-17) of the 9 species of general distribution serve to show the general appearance of some of these plants. All Potamogetons are eaten by ducks, and any one of them would be a valuable acquisition for a ducking ground. The pondweed illustrated by figure 14 (*Potamogeton perfoliatus*) is known as redhead or duck grass, and is an important duck food, said to be especially attractive to redheads. We have found

more of it in the stomachs of canvasbacks than of any other species. All told; 10 species of *Potamogeton* have been identified from duck stomachs, including

rather long threadlike leaves, which present a loose broomlike appearance in the water. The plant is in some places known as foxtail grass. It is known also as eelgrass, and apparently is the plant termed in Europe poker or poch-



Fig. 9.—*Potamogeton natans* L.



Fig. 11.—*Potamogeton heterophyllus* Schreb.



Fig. 10.—*Potamogeton lucens* L.



Fig. 12.—*Potamogeton lonchites* Tuckerm.

all but one of the 9 most widely ranging forms. (Figs. 9-17).

Description of Pondweeds.

The most important species, so far as known, is the sago pondweed (*P. pectinatus*). This plant has numerous

ard grass, after a duck closely related to our redhead. In the autumn, sago pondweed bears small clusters of light brown seeds or nutlets near the surface of the water, in form somewhat like loose bunches of grapes. The other pond-

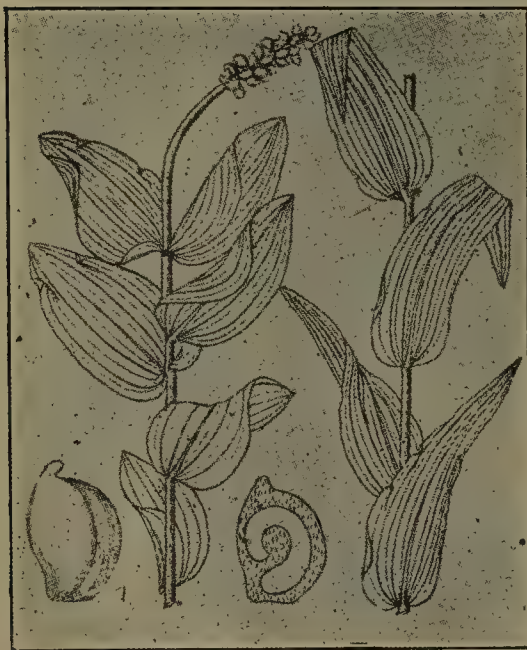
Fig. 13.—*Potamogeton praelongus* Wulf

weeds bear seeds in the same way, and vast numbers of them are eaten by ducks.

The general appearance of sago pondweed is well shown by figure 17; note the brush of fine threadlike leaves and the seed clusters as above described. Here also are shown the tender rootstocks with their tubers, delicacies much sought by many ducks. Figure 18 illustrates the tubers enlarged.

Distribution.

The range of the sago pondweed is

Fig. 14.—*Potamogeton perfoliatus* L

from coast to coast, and as far south as Florida,* Texas, the Mexican Plateau, and Lower California, and north to Nova Scotia, Hudson Bay and along the Pacific coast up to latitude 62° north

Transplanting Pondweeds.

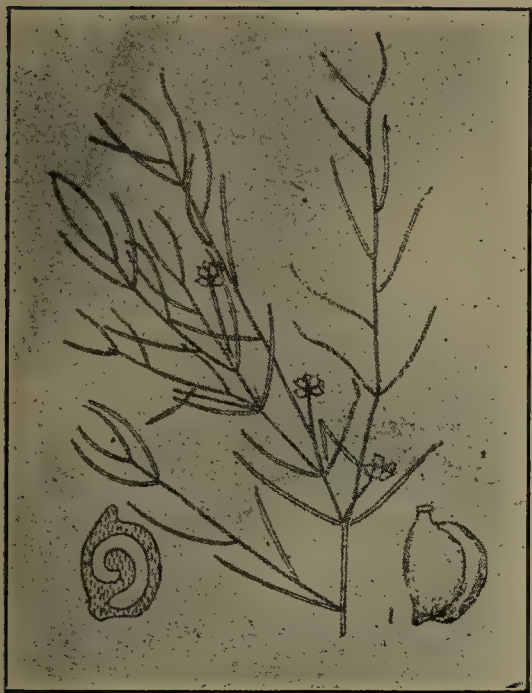
Much less is known about the transplanting of pondweeds than of wild rice and wild celery, but it is just as feasible.† The Fish Commission stations use pondweeds to some extent in their fish ponds, and no difficulty seems to be encountered in transplanting them. Mr. Dwight Lydell, of the Michigan State fish hatchery, states that he has succeeded in

Fig. 15.—*Potamogeton foliosus* Raf

propagating *Potamogetons* by means of seeds and of whole plants. He further states that the most successful and largest growths have been on bottoms where the mud is about 6 inches deep over sand or clay. By mowing the plants

* The manuals of botany give the range of this plant as south to Florida. We have been able to find definite records only as far as North Carolina. In our map (fig. 19) the northern limit of the plant is extended to Great Slave Lake, on the basis of the probable distribution of an aquatic plant recorded from the Lewes River at 62° north latitude, and near the mouth of the Severn River, Hudson Bay.

† Since the above was written Mr. J. B. White, of Waterlily, N. C., has sold and transplanted thousands of dollars' worth of sago.—*Editor.*

Fig. 16.—*Potamogeton pusillus* L.

in lakes where they are plentiful and scattering them about the ponds, no trouble has been experienced in getting a good crop *Potamogetons*. The writer is indebted to Mr. J. B. White, of Waterlily, N. C., for the information that he has often transplanted the sago pondweed about Waterlily. Great success was had with some planted on St. Vincent Island, Fla. It has been propagated also

at Janesville, Wis. Redhead grass (*P. perfoliatus*) also has been successfully propagated at St. Vincent Island, Fla.

Those desiring to transplant pondweeds must usually go out themselves to gather them, for the usefulness of the plants has not been sufficiently well known to create a trade in them.* The seeds of the various species ripen at different times, but in the north may be looked for after August. Those of sago pondweed are in best condition in September and October. After gathering they should be planted at once, or, if held, kept wet and in cold storage.

How to Plant.—Pondweeds may be transplanted on a large scale, as noted above, by mowing† the whole plants with the seeds attached and scattering about



Fig. 13—Tubes of Sago pondweed.

Fig. 17.—Sago pondweed. (Reduced. From *Sunset Magazine*, February, 1905.)

where growth is desired. The seeds alone may be collected and sown broadcast, or they may be embedded in clay balls and distributed over the bottom.

Where to Plant.—Most pondweeds require fresh water, but a few species, including the sago pondweed, will grow in brackish or salt water. Mud bottom is preferable, but both sago pondweed and redhead grass will grow on sand. The water in which pondweeds are planted should be from 2 to 6 feet deep.

When to Plant.—The seed may be planted in fall immediately after gathering, or if cold storage is available the seed may be held until spring, as described in the case of wild rice.

(To be Continued.)

* J. B. White, Waterlily, N. C., now deals largely in this plant and can supply it in large quantities.—Editor.

† A description of the machine for mowing aquatic plants may be found in the Report of the U. S. Fish Com., 1892, pp. 477-478.



THE REMINGTON CELEBRATION.

Millions of adult sportsmen the world over—and boys, perhaps, in particular, who are sons of farmers and of blacksmiths—are looking toward the Mohawk Valley this year with a special interest. At Ilion, N. Y., in that historic country of the Leather Stocking Tales, one hundred years ago, a boy of seventeen was working with his father in a little blacksmith shop on the family estate. In the boy's mind had long been growing a yearning for a rifle—the hills about his father's farm were alive with game. On this memorable morning in 1816 the youth plucked up courage to ask his father for money to buy the coveted arm.

All hail the courage of American boyhood—and the traditional conservatism of American fathers!

For the boy's request was refused and right there was laid the foundation of Remington arms!

The boy was Eliphalet Remington, Jr.

In August this year the people of Ilion village—now a community made up largely of skilled gunsmiths who treasure and are jealous of the Remington story, past and present—will celebrate the making of the first Remington rifle which the boy Remington started immediately upon his father's refusal.

TOLD FROM FATHER TO SON.

It is familiar history in the valley—told and retold from father to son by many a fireside—how young Remington picked up scrap iron here and there, how by infinite labor he hammered it into a billet on the smithy anvil, how he carried the bar fifteen miles to Utica to have it bored and rifled, and how he finally assembled the complete rifle. It was a well made rifle and there was a demand for more—first among neighbors, then the people of the adjoining counties looked to Ilion for their hunting weapons. Day by day the Remington fame spread until the state and the nation, and finally the whole wide world found the path to the always growing factories for which this farmer-smithy boy genius laid the

foundation. Today more than 25,000 workers are making firearms and ammunition which go forth under the Remington name.

So the citizens of Ilion—and Ilion has grown in these hundred years from a cross roads to a thriving town of 10,000 people—have long planned this celebration. There will be a great pilgrimage to the scenes of the early Remington activities. The forge has long since gone—crumbled and rotted and washed away by the years—but on the site, well marked by generations of dwellers in the valley, a commemorative tablet will be placed. And in the village, in the shadow of one of the gigantic Remington arms factories, there will be parades and pageants, speeches and spectacles, games and various other forms of entertainment, all to bring back to the present generation a glimpse of the progress of one hundred years and to emphasize the old adage, "Despise not the day of small things."

THREE DAYS' CELEBRATION.

Three days, August 29, 30 and 31, are announced as the celebration days by the Ilion Centennial Committee. These will be designated, respectively, as Ilion Day, New York State Day and Industrial Day. Appropriate programs have been tentatively arranged and details are being carefully and elaborately worked out—Ilion has an enviable reputation for doing things on a big scale. So far, it is known that Governor Whitman of New York State will be among the speakers. Other representative men will also talk to the great crowds that Ilion will entertain. Major General Hugh L. Scott, Chief of Staff, United States Army, will be in attendance on one day at least.

Just now—two months distant from the celebration time—the event is forecasted in many ways. For instance, in a McDougal Alley studio, New York, just on the edge of Washington Square, Albin Polasek, the Bohemian sculptor, is creating, in clay, his conception of the making of the first Remington—

a striking conception that is splendid in spirit and in execution. From Mr. Polasek's model, bronze statues will be made and presented by the citizens of Ilion "To the Organized Militia of the United States, for Perpetual Competition." These statues will be sent to the national capitols of each State and will be competed for each year by the National Guard companies and awarded "for proficiency in marksmanship." The model may also be reproduced in other ways. It is safe to say that no more fitting and graceful tribute has ever been paid the shooting sport in this country than the giving of these statues.

AN UNPARALLELED ACHIEVEMENT.

Probably nowhere in the world—certainly

not in this young country of ours—has there been a parallel to this solid century of achievement and advancement along one line of industry, going back for its origin to so humble and yet so romantic a beginning. From the little forge shop to the largest manufacturers of firearms and ammunition in the world in the span of a human life, is a development that seems more like a dream than the magnificent record which history shows it to be.

The rallying of the throngs and the homecomings to the prosperous little Mohawk Valley town in August will represent only a small cross section of the Centennial's full meaning. All the world will pay homage to Ilion this year and to the birth and growth of the firearms industry in America.

NOTES FROM THE GAME FARMS AND PRESERVES.



Young Mallards.

More About Snakes.

Referring to "snakes"—years ago a black snake was opened on the B. G. Park Association grounds and six partridge (grouse) eggs were taken from his stomach. I have an original set of Audubon's works. One plate shows a combat between a black snake and the parent brown thrasher, one of which he has killed. He was trying to take the eggs from their nest and Audubon witnessed the scene.

Last spring I shot a sparrow that was annoying my martins and laid it on the wall below their house for them to look

at. Two hours after the English sparrow was gone. I called my cocker spaniel to find it. He located it in a hole of the wall and took it from the mouth of a large garter snake which had already got the head and shoulders down. I am satisfied this snake would kill and eat any young bird like a quail, for example.

A club of which I am president, located in North Carolina, gives the game warden a 25 cent bounty for every egg-devouring snake he kills, also for every hawk known as an enemy to birds. In bounties he has collected from year to year about \$60 per annum. We formerly included owls but we omitted them as they are great destroyers of field mice, the farmers asking for the owls' protection even if they did get some quail.

The tail of every snake killed is tacked on the side of a barn for my annual inspection and count. I find there from 100 to 150 each year, the list being mostly black and whip snakes and a few land moccasins. Our game warden is a strictly honest man. He has seen large black snakes rob hen's roosts and tells me that in Florida the "racer," or large black snake, after swallowing whole, several eggs, finds a narrow space to crawl through and in so doing constricts and breaks up the eggs in his stomach. I am sure any snake from 2½ feet upwards will eat any egg in size up to and including a grouse egg.

J. D. FOOT.

Food for Wild Ducks.

Mr. Jasper B. White soon will make an extended trip to visit old customers who have planted his sago pond weed and other foods and to see many new ones who wish his advice about planting. Readers who wish to procure sago, celery or other duck foods are advised to write to Mr. J. B. White, Waterlilly, N. C. He has many testimonials from people who have planted his foods. Mr. White expects to visit The Game Breeder before long when local customers will have an opportunity of conferring with him. Letters addressed to Mr. White, care of The Game Breeder, will be forwarded promptly while he is on his Northern trip.

A State's Attack on Hawks.

JOSEPH W. LIPPINCOTT.

The Hawk Bounty Law in Ohio has according to Assistant Inspector Major Charles Becht's estimate, led to the killing of 10,000 birds in that State since last June. The killing is still going on, the bounty paid being one dollar per hawk—a high reward to put upon the heads of birds which other States find the average gunner only too prone to shoot without such incentive and even the sanction of the law.

Many of us know the great good certain hawks do in killing off numbers of destructive little rodents whose ranks if unrestrained can increase five to six fold in a year or even less time. That thousands of valuable hawks must perish and be thus lost to communities as mousers and insect destroyers in order that a few rascals in their ranks may pay the just penalty of misdeeds seems to me a great pity.

We may all unite in condemning four kinds of hawks, for they are proved to be enemies of other birds and therefore also of men—they are the sharpshin, the goshawk, the cooper and the peregrin falcon, commonly called the duck hawk because of its predisposition to kill wild ducks. To such a black list one might also add that big night marauder, the great horned owl. It is an easy matter to find in any library pictures of these destroyers in order to distinguish them.

As a farmer as well as a bird lover I

am always indignant when I hear of more or less slaughter of this kind. What will our fields and woods look like if gracefully soaring hawks are forever eliminated from the view and if the land and its crops are throughout the day given over to rodent pests?

In comments upon the same State's game laws appears the statement that it is against the law to kill or injure foxes in Ohio. Verily, here is a puzzle. Is there any wild fox that does not destroy more birds, more four footed game animals and more chickens than a hawk? Does the rather small value of his pelt repay the depredation of years?

These things may become live issues in other States and it is well to carefully consider them from all sides before it is too late.—Guide to Nature.

Ants and Ant Eggs.

One of our readers writes to say that he can gather plenty of ant eggs but he also gathers the ants with the eggs and he wishes to know how to separate them. We referred the question to one of the best game keepers in the country and he replied that he purchased his ant eggs from The Spratts Patent, Ltd., Newark, New Jersey, and was unable to solve the problem. We would like to hear from the Spratts, possibly they can solve the riddle and it may be they would like to have some of the abundant eggs after the ants are eliminated.

The Egg Market.

Breeders are sending reports of the number of eggs sold and the prices realized this season. Those who advertised early and persistently say they are well pleased with the results. One (who says this letter is not for publication since we remember the old adage, "Fools' names like fools' faces are always seen in public places") writes that he sold all of his pheasant eggs, between one and two thousand, at \$25 per hundred. Pheasants were sold at \$5 each as the breeding season approached and he could not fill his orders. Quail sold for \$36 per dozen and later he says he was offered \$60 per dozen for these birds and could not supply them.

Now is the Time.

We would strongly urge those who expect to purchase game birds or eggs for next season to write to our advertisers now and get prices for birds to be delivered in the fall and for eggs to be delivered early in the spring.

Many States have enacted game breeders' laws. Many clubs and individuals will buy game and eggs. The prices surely will advance rapidly as the breeding season approaches and we are confident the demand will exceed the supply and that those who do not arrange to get game and eggs early will be disappointed to learn that the dealers cannot fill their orders.

Clubs should buy enough birds to be able to sell some eggs to help pay their expenses.

Remember that the New York market is now open to game produced by industry in other States and that there will be a big demand for the desirable food.

Own Dogs Broke His Leg.

Russell, Kan.—F. J. Wilson got a leg broken in a peculiar manner the other Sunday. He was out in the fields looking at his crops when his greyhounds started after a jack rabbit. As the dogs, following the rabbit in close pursuit, came by Mr. Wilson they ran against him, breaking his leg just below the knee.—The World.

Bob White Quail Plentiful.

By WARREN S. B. TYCER,
Brownsville, Oregon.

A few lines from Linn County, the original home of the famous Chinese pheasant, might prove of interest to readers of The Oregon Sportsman. At the close of the shooting season last fall there appeared to be left more pheasants in the fields than has ever been known before.

Bobwhite quail are becoming very plentiful in Linn County, especially in the eastern portions. The California quail, liberated in the neighborhood of Brownsville last year, are doing well. It is reported that about fifty of these birds were seen recently on the Montgomery

farm. There were twelve of them when they were liberated by the Brownsville Rod and Gun Club.—Oregon Sportsman.

Pheasants.

Mr. S. V. Reeves has sent us a little book, "Rearing Pheasants in Small Enclosures," a guide to those rearing and keeping pheasants.

Mr. Reeves says there is nothing stated in the booklet that has not been long and successfully tried by the author. The book is illustrated with drawings of pens, coops and runs and contains simple directions for handling the birds and eggs and the bantams which the author prefers for foster mothers. There are directions for feeding the old and young pheasants. The book is published by the author, S. V. Reeves, Haddonfield, New Jersey. Price 20 cents.

The Crow Call.

Many people believe that the crow is one of the worst enemies of game as well as poultry. We have had considerable experience with crows and know that they are fond of game eggs and young game birds. We are glad to invite our readers' attention to a small advertisement of a crow call which is highly recommended and is said to be very fatal to crows. It is inexpensive and we advise those who have game to try the crow call and to shoot some of the black enemies.

Backbone.

The teacher of a small class of children recently gave a physiology lesson on the bones of the body. The time to ask questions had come.

"Who will tell me what the backbone is?"

The question was a poser, and no one ventured to reply. Finally the teacher detected a gleam of hope in Sammy's face and smiled encouragingly at him.

"Well, Sammy?"

"The backbone is a long straight bone. Your head sits on one end and you sit on the other," answered Sammy.

The Game Breeder

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

EDITED BY DWIGHT W. HUNTINGTON

NEW YORK, JULY, 1916.

TERMS:

10 Cents a Copy—\$1.00 a year in Advance.

Postage free to all subscribers in the United States.
To All Foreign Countries and Canada, \$1.25.

THE GAME CONSERVATION SOCIETY, INC.
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THE IMPORTANT SAGO.

When the editor of *The Game Breeder* was engaged in writing the book about wild duck breeding, "Our Wild Fowl and Waders," he asked a distinguished ornithologist to write a chapter about the natural foods of wild ducks. The request was declined for the reason given that the naturalist did not feel qualified to handle the subject. He added that he had doubts if anyone in America was equipped to fill the order for a comprehensive chapter on wild duck foods.

Mr. Jasper B. White, of Waterlilly, North Carolina, and Mr. Clyde B. Terrell, of Oshkosh, Wisconsin, had begun to sell wild celery and wild rice, and the late Dr. R. V. Pierce, the owner of the big preserve, St. Vincents Island, Florida, had introduced the fox-tail grass or sago pond weed with great success and wrote a letter to the editor about this food which was quoted at length in the book.

The year after the publication of the book, Mr. W. L. McAtee, of the Biological Survey, U. S. Department of Agriculture, wrote the excellent bulletin on "Three Important Wild Duck Foods," a part of which relating to the sago and other pond weeds is printed on another page. It appears that sago and the others compose a greater percentage of the food of sixteen of the most important species of ducks than wild rice and wild celery together.

Mr. McAtee says he is indebted to Mr. J. B. White, of Waterlilly, N. C., for the information that he has often transplanted the sago pond weed about Waterlilly. Dr. Pierce informed the editor that he procured his sago from Mr. White. In his letter, quoted in the book, he said: "My lakes and ponds are now quite well seeded with this plant. I regard the foxtail grass (sago) as one of the most valuable duck foods because it seeds prolifically and, also, produces bulbs which are much sought after by many species of ducks; in fact, by all species and also by wild geese. Foxtail grass spreads very rapidly. When once produced in a duck preserve, one need have no fear of its ever running out or failing to grow abundantly."

When Mr. McAtee wrote his important bulletin he observed that "those desiring to transplant pond weeds must usually go out themselves to gather them, for the usefulness of the plants has not been sufficiently well known to create a trade in them. All this has been changed rapidly since Dr. Pierce praised sago in the book, "Our Wild Fowl and Waders," and Mr. McAtee pointed out its importance in the bulletin. Thousands of dollars worth of sago have been sold to the owners of duck preserves within the past few months and the demand for this important food steadily is increasing. Mr. Jasper B. White, who began with a few lines of advertising in *The Game Breeder* increased the space to a quarter page and in this issue has a full page devoted to the offering of sago and other important wild duck foods.

Mr. McAtee performed a great public service when he wrote the bulletin about the sago pond weeds, the wild celery and the other plants which are eaten by wild fowl.

IOWA.

Mr. E. C. Hinshaw, the State Fish and Game Warden of Iowa, is entitled to great credit for the advanced position the State has taken in the matter of conserving its game. Iowa once had an abundance of prairie grouse, quail, wild fowl and other game and many residents of the State can recall the time when they could have game to eat. In no State

has it been more evident that the enactment of many game laws did not produce the desirable food for the people to eat; in no State are the possibilities for excellent shooting better than they are in Iowa. The farms of Iowa can be made to yield grouse and quail abundantly provided the sportsmen and farmers work harmoniously and the conditions under which game can exist be restored. Prairie grouse cannot survive on closely cultivated areas where their winter foods are destroyed and where a little shooting is added to the destruction of the birds by their natural enemies. The farms in Iowa easily can be made to yield an abundance of game for the people to eat and for the sportsmen to shoot provided small covers and food areas can be maintained and provided the natural enemies of the game be controlled to make a place for the shooting. A profitable game farm in every county would soon make the game plentiful and cheap in the markets. The sportsmen of all classes will be benefited when some of them create a game preserve since the game will overflow as it does in other States from the game preserve.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Editor Game Breeder:

Here's my renewal. Keep up your good work. Would not miss a copy of your magazine.

Wisconsin.

E. G. SHOWERS.

It Pays to Subscribe.

A man in Sherman County, Oregon, subscribed for The Oregon Sportsman, went home and told his wife what he had done. She was so pleased with his sportsmanship that on the following day she presented him with a ten pound boy. Possibly there would have been twins had he also subscribed for The Game Breeder.

Ex Post Facto Towel Law.

The roller towel has been rather generally killed off and forgotten in Massachusetts public places, but it lingers here and there in remote spots. A Boston man just back from a business trip through some of the small places of

Western Massachusetts tells of finding one of the things in the washroom of a country hotel.

"Say," he said to a companion washer, a native, "doesn't the man that runs this hotel know that the roller towel is against the law?"

"Sure, he knows it," answered the native, as he combed his spare locks with the chained comb hanging from the wall, "but that law wasn't passed when this towel was put up."

Quick Returns.

A Scotchman was telling an Irish neighbor of his with great pride how he had planted an acorn which sprang up into a fine oak tree.

"Begorra, that's nothing," commented Pat, unimpressed. "Sure an' I once planted a dead cat, and in a short time up sprang a sanitary inspector."

Rebuffed.

In the early morn the fresh city boarder met the rustic dairymaid carrying a couple of foaming milk pails.

"Ah, good morning, my dear," he said, patronizingly. "How is the milkmaid?"

"'Tain't made at all, kind sir," she said. "We take it from th' cows."—Chicago Herald.

A Healthy Disease.

Laziness is a disease, declares one of the eminent doctors. The surprising fact is that most of the victims of the disease always look so distressingly healthy.—Providence Journal.

A Good War Horse.

A professor who had bought a shabby looking horse asked his coachman to try it. After the animal had been trotted around the road a few times the professor asked Pat:

"What do you think of him?"

"Be dad, he'd make a fine war horse," said Pat.

"Why, how is that?" asked the professor.

"Because," said Pat, "he'd sooner die than run."



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Only Two Essentials Lacking.

Sidney Hocks is fixing to open a barber shop at Bounding Billows. He expects to be ready for business as soon as he can get hold of a good razor and a back number of the Police Gazette.—Hogwallow Kentuckian.

Inside Information.

Willie—Paw, what is meant by inside information?

Paw—That's something that a surgeon has after he gets through with a man in the operating room, my son.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Where Harrison Studied.

The Society for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities has been placing tablets on various sites throughout the city of Richmond, commemorating their past associations with greatness.

One of these tablets is on an Italian public house or barroom, in Eighteenth street, and it reads:

"William Henry Harrison, ninth president of the United States, studied medicine here."

WRITE US for Prices on ringnecks deliverable in July, August or September as you may desire, also Mallard. We handle sixteen other varieties of pheasants, all varieties peafowl, wild turkey and fancy ducks.

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150 Nassau Street

New York City

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QUAIL, PARTRIDGES, WILD FOWL, DEER AND
other animals. See display advertisement in this issue. WM. J. MACKENSEN, Proprietor Pennsylvania Pheasantry and Game Park.

CANADA WILD GEESE AND THEIR GOSLINGS—
A limited number for sale now—the surest way to start breeding this species. We are the oldest and largest breeders of Canadas in this country. Black and White Swans, Wild Ducks, etc., for sale. WHEALTON WATER FOWL FARMS, Chincoteague Island, Va.

WILD TURKEYS—For prices see display advertisement in this issue. W. J. MACKENSEN, Yardley, Bucks County, Pa.

FOR SALE—Pheasants and eggs. Everything in the pheasant family. Pamphlet with order free. BUCKWOOD PHEASANTRIES, Dunfield, Warren Co., New Jersey. (101)

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GOLDEN AND ENGLISH RINGNECK PHEASANT
eggs for hatching. May to August. W. S. ALLISON, Merrimacport, Mass. 7-16

PURE BRED WILD WATERFOWL AT FOLLOW-
ing prices: Mallards, \$3.00 per pair. Pintails, \$2.50 per pair. Green Wing Teal, \$4.00 per pair. Blue Wing Teal, \$3.00 per pair. Also redheads, Gadwalls, Widgeons, Canvasbacks, Spoonbills, at reasonable prices, for propagating and scientific purposes. GEORGE J. KLEIN, Ellinwood, Kansas.

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ERS. Pheasants, Quail, Mallard price list. FRED D. HOYT, Hayward, Cal.

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FIRST PRIZE WINNING RINGNECK PHEASANTS.
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The Farmer's Attitude.

Rural New Yorker says:

There are two bills before the New York Legislature which make changes in the game laws. One changes the open season for pheasants to the first three Thursdays in November. At this season stock and workmen are to a large extent out of the fields—thus giving less danger from injury. The other prohibits hunting within 200 feet of a farm building or shooting within 500 feet of buildings or highway. This will be called a very mild form of prohibition to one who has been obliged

to pick shot out of his body or see his stock maimed or killed, but we should all get behind these bills and help put them through. There is now an organized movement to protect farmers' rights in these game laws. It is backed by the State Grange, Horticultural Society and many other organizations. James G. Greene of Rochester is in charge of this legislation, and he will need all the help he can get. Most of all he wants truthful reports of cases where farmers have suffered injury or annoyance from hunters. If any reader can furnish such reports we hope they will write Mr. Greene at once.

GAME BIRDS FOR PROPAGATING PURPOSES

Genuine Wild Mallards, Black Duck, Green-wing and Blue-wing Teal, Pintails, Gadwalls, Shovellers, Wood Duck, Widgeon, Red-heads, Blue-bills, also a few pairs of extra choice Canvas-backs and Ring-bills; Canadian, Greater and Lesser Snow, Ross, Brant, Hutchins, Cackling and Blue Geese, supplied for propagating purposes. Finest quality in the country.

Golden, Silver, Amherst, Reeves Pheasants at reasonable prices. I also am booking orders for ring-neck Pheasants reared on my preserve for delivery in early fall.

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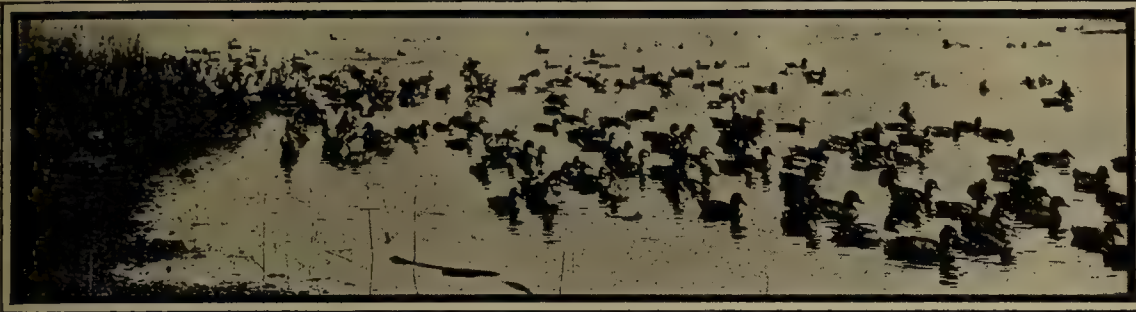
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We also ship wild celery roots and seeds. Chara, Widgeon grass roots, Red head grass and Wild rice roots. We will not ship Wild rice seed.

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JASPER B. WHITE, Waterlily, Currituck Sound, N. C.

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Department V.

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THE

GAME BREEDER

VOL. IX.

AUGUST, 1916

No. 5

THE OBJECT OF THIS MAGAZINE IS
TO MAKE NORTH AMERICA THE BIGGEST
GAME PRODUCING COUNTRY IN THE WORLD

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PUBLISHED BY
THE GAME CONSERVATION SOCIETY, Inc.
NEW YORK CITY U.S.A.

C. B. Davis - 15

OUR WILD FOWL AND WADERS

THE NEW YORK TIMES

"The subject is the development of a new crop—a flesh crop which has especial timeliness in view of the general exhaustion of our food supply. Mr. Huntington discusses in the most practical manner the restoration of this crop of feathered game, and from the standpoint both of the sportsman and the market gunner, wild ducks, it seems, can be raised as easily and cheaply as domesticated ducks, and with equally excellent financial results. The way to do this is described with estimates of cost and citation of experience abroad, where the deficiency of food supply has led to the discovery and elaboration of many remedies to which we have not yet been forced. Mr. Huntington's book is illustrated with photographs, interesting alike to naturalists and breeders."

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"'Our Wild Fowl and Waders' is obviously an able, comprehensive and very interesting treatise on a subject which has hitherto received but little attention from writers, especially in America, and concerning which naturalists, as well as sportsmen, will, I am sure, be glad to be thus credibly and pleasingly informed."

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"Mr. Huntington has given to the American people an admirable treatise on the practical methods of making these splendid and desirable birds profitably plentiful. Ponds, streams and waste lands which do not pay the meagre taxes upon them can be utilized and be made to yield both handsome profits and good sport. This American authority on wild game tells the farmers and land owners of this country how to do it."

CHARLES HALLOCK

"The wild fowl book is valuable, clear-sighted and scholastic. It is a direct appeal to sportsmen of common sense and generous behavior, and they will readily absorb its comprehensive pages and act accordingly—and live thereby."

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"I have enjoyed the treat in my reading of this book from frontispiece to finish and I wager anybody else will enjoy it. . . . The author has placed every sportsman, every naturalist and a great many other citizens of other callings squarely under obligations to him. The book is a direct and logical argument setting forth the means for the preservation in the future of our wild fowl and waders. . . . The illustrations are judiciously selected, interesting and materially add to the value of the volume."

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THE GAME CONSERVATION SOCIETY
150 NASSAU STREET, N. Y.

When There Is Game Enough For All



The day is coming when there will be as much wild game in this country as there was fifty years ago. Men now living can remember the time when the sky was darkened by the flight of wild ducks, when wild turkeys, quail, grouse and other game birds abounded in our woods and fields. It does not take a great effort of imagination to picture what a return of these conditions will mean—not only to the sportsman but also to the farmer, the housewife and the market man.

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The Game Breeder

Published Monthly. Entered as second-class matter, July 9, 1915, at the Post Office, New York City, New York, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

VOLUME IX

AUGUST, 1916

NUMBER 5



SURVEY OF THE FIELD.

How About It?

Under the heading, "Foreign Species vs. American Game," The Pine Cone, the bulletin of the New Mexico Game Protective Association, says:

According to a government report, about 25,000 foreign game birds have been imported into this country since 1900, apparently at an average cost of about \$10 per pair. Probably ten times as many have been bought from American dealers. A very rough guess would place the total expenditure for foreign species at \$1,000,000. It is well known that a large majority of these operations have been failures. Without attempting any sweeping statements as to whether this money is wasted it is nevertheless obvious that it would have sufficed:

(a) To finance 60 Game Protective Associations for 16 years.

(b) To employ 60 paid wardens for 16 years.

(c) To reach every hunter in the United States with 10 appeals for conservation of native game.

(d) To pay 20,000 rewards of \$50 each for the apprehension of game-hogs.

=

Much About It.

Much can be said about it most of which is well known to readers of The Game Breeder.

(a) We would say that the number of live birds imported is under-estimated. We have no doubt that more than a million dollars have been sent abroad for live and dead game and often we have said that the laws should be amended so as to permit the sending of this money to American game farms. Over two-thirds of the States have amended their laws so as to encourage the breeding of all or certain species of game. Some States only permit the breeding of foreign birds and wild ducks and deer.

(b) The money "would have sufficed" to finance several times 60 game breeding

associations which easily could produce several hundred thousand game birds annually.

(c) It would have sufficed to reach every sportsman in the United States with 20 appeals to quit calling names as a means of increasing game ("game hog," etc.), to stop striving for the impossible and to get busy in securing "more game and fewer game laws."

(d) To pay 20,000 rewards of \$50 each to small breeders who produced over a thousand game birds annually.

=

What New Mexico Should Do.

New Mexico promptly should follow the lead of the other States and enact a modern game breeders' law permitting and encouraging the profitable breeding of all species of game.

It seems almost ludicrous for New Mexico suddenly to wake up to the idea that it is wise to try and produce game by calling people who shoot game "hogs," since practically all of the other States have abandoned this plan. For a time some said "game pig" because the game became so scarce that there was not enough left to warrant the larger word hog, but recently this method of producing game has been abandoned in the States which are producing game.

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Failures.

As to the statement above quoted from Pine Cone, "that a large majority of these operations (importing game) have been failures" we would observe that the operations may be divided into two classes:

(1) Importations by State game officers.

(2) Importations by commercial game

breeders, clubs and game preserve owners.

It is true there have been some, in fact many decided failures where States have brought in thousands of innocent birds and turned them down to feed vermin. Connecticut, Missouri, Indiana, Kansas and other States spent many thousands of dollars for imported birds not one of which was legally shot and the birds practically have vanished like snow on a warm sunny morning.

In practically every case, however, where the importations were made by or for people who look after their game the increase has been tremendous. At many places a few thousand birds are shot every season. Many are sent to the New York market where they bring excellent prices; the money is used to produce more game. We shall be glad to get an order from Pine Cone or its readers for an hundred thousand pheasants and wild ducks and we will agree that all of the birds will be shipped from American game farms at from \$1 to \$2 less per bird than Pine Cone says was sent abroad for the imported stock. See advertisements in Game Breeder and order now if you want any game.

We will place an order for a million game birds to be filled in two years' time and we are quite sure our readers will deliver the goods if a small deposit be made to insure good faith.

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Cattle and Quail.

New Mexico has encouraged or at least permitted the cattle industry. In a report issued by the United States Agricultural Department we read that one of the most interesting and valuable quail formerly found in the Southwestern part of the United States has probably become extinct since cattle were introduced on its range. See article in this issue on the masked bobwhite.

Pine Cone uses a buffalo skull with the words: "Where are the buffaloes?" as its trade mark and a very fat pig to illustrate its methods. We can answer the question. Our readers will supply all the buffaloes any New Mexican may want at a fair price. We would like to know on whose ranch they can be introduced

as sporting animals for the public to shoot.

A good herd of these animals was sold not long ago to Canada because no one in the United States seemed to want them. Send an order to The Game Breeder, Pine Cone, and we will see that you get some buffaloes—if you need any buffaloes.

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Health Giving Sport.

Under date of July 2, a press report from Woodsfield, Ohio, brings the following announcement of a centenarian's challenge to other Buckeye hunters who are fourscore years—or more—of age:

"On July 4, John Hally, G. A. R. veteran, celebrates his 106th birthday. Today he issued a coon hunting challenge to any Ohioan over eighty.

"It's the simple life,' the old man declared, when some youngsters of fifty asked how he had managed to live so long. 'I've beaten my father now. He died at 103.'

"Freedom from worry, abstinence from tobacco and intoxicants and plenty of coon hunting is Mr. Hally's recipe if you'd live to be 106."—Sportsmen's Review.

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Sword Fish and Sharks.

Since the unfortunate accidents on the New Jersey coast, where sharks have directly caused the death of two persons, your correspondents have suggested that their presence is due to the Gulf Stream and to the hunger of these rapacious sea wolves. While these statements are true we must remember that the commercial activity shown in capturing swordfish in these latitudes is actually the reason why the waters every year show increase of sharks.

The sharks will multiply to the harm and danger of the many resorts whose means of revenue is salt water bathing. The swordfish is an enemy of the shark. This is verified by the battles waged on the sea's surface whenever the one meets the other. Protect your swordfish as you protect your birds and your waters will be free of the shark.

The argument advanced that sharks do not attack human beings is not borne

out by the record of maritime events. In the city of Havana, Cuba, there was a colored man famous for his periodical battles with sharks until he fell a victim to one of these sea monsters. There is no island of the West Indies on the mainland of South America that could not produce the facts to show that sharks have got away with parts of the anatomy of persons who have fallen overboard or who have been indiscreet by bathing or exposing themselves in such waters.

As early as the eighteenth century Ulloa records that off the Colombia coast where the Spaniards had their negro slaves engaged in the pearl fisheries their greatest dangers were from sharks and devilfish. The negro divers who were reputed to be the most expert of their day, not only could battle with sharks but maintained the demand for their services and the fishery was kept up specially off Panama for more than a hundred years.

The sharks would leave the waters saturated with the crimson color of blood, while the devilfish carried off his victims and left no trace whatever. Charles Darwin has left us enough on the instinct of animals, and the sharks seem to be indeed remarkably sensitive to the appearance of individuals in the waters off the coast.—Arthur A. Shomburg, in New York Sun.

More.

"More" is getting to be a common and a great big word all over the country.

More Game and Fewer Game Laws.

Many thousands of readers now end their letters, "Yours for More Game."

We especially wish to see "more" quail and grouse trapped for propagation purposes. How absurd it is for some States to say you may kill 3 or 10 or some other number of quail during the season but you must not ask permission to take a similar number of birds alive for propagation.

The State should distribute "more" stock birds to those who will agree to multiply their numbers. Vermin in many places get more State game than the sportsmen can secure. Often it is eaten

up before the last-named arrive on the ground.

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A Good Book.

John W. Talbot, one of the leading practical game protectionists of this country, has published a very good book on "Game Laws and Game."

The first part is devoted to a discussion of the absurdities which exist in many State enactments and the second part is devoted to Pheasants, their Rearing and Hatching.

The text of the first part indicates that Mr. Talbot is filled with righteous indignation (the kind which it is perfectly proper for even Quakers to have—we had it at the start) as he contemplates the preventive sections of the laws which tend to protect the game off the face of the earth. He cites a recent important decision by the New York Court of Appeals, which indicates that the court does not approve of statutes which have the effect of restricting an article of commerce although they be written to protect game or to promote health. We reprint the decision and it seems certain it will be hailed with delight by those who are fond of common sense and good laws and who would like to see the markets full of game during long open seasons, as they soon will be. Mr. Talbot's book costs \$1. It is published by The Game Bird Society, South Bend, Ind. All more-gameists will be delighted with the game law discussion and breeders will find the part on pheasant breeding instructive and interesting. Mr. Talbot has made a valuable contribution to the "more game" movement.

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A Missourian to a New Mexican.

It wud bee a pitty fur this law too be declaired unconstytooshunul. Enny one who reeds what Mr. Alldoo Leopold says about tha state being all covered over with watter-foul, wud niver wish tha state tha bad luck uv again being put back into tha condishion she was in when I saw her frum tha winddow uv that toorist car, gasping fur me breath and no watter ennywhear to quensch me thirst.

I wish too say that I perfectly agree

with tha ten reesuns given bye Mr. Alldoo Leopold, why the Supream Coart uv tha Unitted States shud not be purmitted to declair this law unconstytooshinul.

This reminds me uv a lawyer who wus hired to defend a frind uv mine. Said he too tha Judge: "I have ten reasons why me cliant kant be in coart today. Tha furst reesun is that me cliant is dead. The second reason is ——" "Hold on," sed tha Judge, "tha first reesun is suffishunt; don't take up too much time uv tha coart tellin' about tha other nine reesuns. Tha defendunt is disscharged fur want uv jurisdiction uv this coart too try tha case, so I hope he is resting easy in hell. Call the next case."

If this Fedderul law is upheld by tha Supream Coart, us Missourians will take our meddisin, but I kant garrantee that tha "gaime hogs" will sell ther shootin' irons and quit that skatter gun gaime; I rathur expect thay will all buy raleroad tickets fur New Mexico, wher tha state is all covered with watterfoul and tha jacksnipe and road runners is basking in tha sun, while tha jack rabbits is chaising the coyotes throo tha mesquite and tha magpies is learning how too talk by hollerin' "gaime hog" too tha hunters frum tha Middul West fur introoding into tha State uv New Mexico.

Yours respeckfully,

MICHAEL JOSEPH FLANNIGAN.

Saint Louie, Missouri.

—Sportsmen's Review.

Rapid Progress.

We are well pleased with the results obtained by elk and deer breeders and by the breeders of pheasants and wild ducks. Hundreds of deer breeders have deer. Thousands now own pheasants and ducks; in many cases the numbers are surprising. We have inquiries as to where the most birds will be shot next fall. We are quite sure the biggest bag which we will report will run over five thousand birds. We have an idea where this will be done and we will report the shoot later.

The game laws have retarded the increase of the quail and grouse in some States but at a number of places the bags will run over a thousand birds in November and at a few places several thousand

quail will be shot. We shall give special attention to quail and grouse breeding during the coming year.

Undoubtedly the United States will be the biggest pheasant producing country in the world within five years at the present rate of increase. We are inclined to believe that already we have more wild ducks than any country in the world and the numbers rapidly are increasing. More wild fowl are marketed, no doubt, in England than in America, but this is because about 5,000 market gunners are permitted to shoot wild fowl in England with huge punt guns. Ducks are brought to the market from the public waters just as fish are in large numbers. The Louisiana, California and some other markets are creditable. We believe we have as many or probably more wild ducks than the English markets have.

Farm Values.

We received a long and interesting letter from one of our New York readers who wishes to purchase a farm of 250 acres in Virginia for game farming. It will be interesting to learn if the sale of this farm is prevented by "fool" game laws prohibiting the profitable production of food. We are investigating this subject and we hope to publish a full statement of the facts in our next issue. Farms where game can be produced and sold, at present prices, are worth twice as much as farms where the owners are liable to arrest for food producing.

Ohio.

By a singular coincidence an Ohio farmer called at the office of The Game Breeder the same day we received the inquiry about purchasing a farm in Virginia. Our Ohio friend when we asked him why he had sold his farm and left the State, said he would not live in a State which prohibited quail shooting and prevented the increase of this desirable bird. He says he has many quail, ruffed grouse and other game birds on his new place and enjoys living in a State where there is more freedom than there is in Ohio. We are a little surprised that more farmers do not appeal to the farm journals to help them secure game breeders' laws in the slow States.

SAFE AND ATTRACTIVE QUAIL GROUNDS.

By D. W. HUNTINGTON.

The individual or club, having arranged with the owners of some posted farms to rent the shooting, should not imagine that they can shoot much if any of the game found in the fields and woods without causing it rapidly to become extinct unless some practical game preserving be undertaken.

The vermin, which surely is present, although not much may be seen, will check the increase of the game leaving only enough stock birds to restock the fields. Should the sportsmen take up the destruction after the vermin has been fed they will shoot the birds intended for restocking and the result will be disastrous as such shooting always has been.

On the average farm many of the fields will be unattractive to game and even uninhabitable. Closely cropped pastures, closely tilled fields surrounded by barbed-wire fences, open woods where the briars and underbrush have been eliminated are neither safe nor attractive to upland game and in closely cultivated regions the fields should be made safe and attractive before game birds are turned down.

It is highly desirable to have game in every field. The more evenly it is distributed the better it will be not only for the birds who do not stand overcrowding and for the sportsmen who should enjoy seeing the dogs point game often.

It is not a difficult matter to make unattractive fields attractive. The two things to be done are to provide cover and food. The best cover for open fields is small briar patches. The blackberry and wild rose make excellent covers and both supply excellent food; the seeds from the berries which wither on the briars and the hips of the wild rose are excellent winter foods and can be obtained above the snow. A narrow strip of briars and wild grasses and weeds will make a safe cover beside the wire fences and if some grain be planted and left standing the quail and grouse will find

the ground both safe and attractive; and if the numerous natural enemies be well controlled with the gun and trap a good number of birds can be shot safely every season. A narrow strip of corn and a narrow strip of wheat, buckwheat rye or barley and the weeds which will appear will supply all the food needed. The corn will afford shade in summer and some of the grain can be fed to the birds in the winter. Where special plantings are made in pastures they should be inclosed with a wire to keep out the cattle. An inexpensive fence run parallel to one or more of the fences inclosing the field and only a few feet distant will inclose a food cover area which will yield some excellent shooting for two guns one on either side of the cover.

Open woods can be made attractive by planting briars in a few places; and a few old tree tops and brush piles such as we used to find plentiful in the woods will be found desirable. A small clearing made in the woods and planted with quail foods including a little lettuce and other garden plants clover and grass will surely hold one or more covies. Grit and dusting places easily can be arranged in such clearings. They can be made at small expense but the farmer should be compensated for the use of the small areas planted especially for the quail.

The vermin will find it difficult to take many birds in the briar patches. Sportsmen, no doubt, often have observed how quickly the quail fly to the briars when flushed on the stubbles. No hawk can strike them there and the fox cannot catch birds running in briars.

The keeper should persistently destroy the snakes, hawks, crows and other vermin and he will find a terrier useful in aiding him to locate the ground vermin.

The foregoing applies to farms in the Central and Western States where there is often no cover at certain seasons of the year. On the prairies in the West when the stubble and weeds are plowed under

not a sunflower, wild rose or even a weed remains on vast areas. There is absolutely no cover and no food and under such conditions laws prohibiting shooting at all times will not save the game and certainly they will not restore it on miles of land where it has been extirpated.

In many of the Eastern and Southern States the conditions are quite different.

Where agriculture has waned and where the weeds, brush and briars are overabundant the ground should be made attractive by cutting openings and rides through the brush and by making many attractive fields, small ones will do, where grain and other foods are planted. It is far more difficult to control the vermin on such areas than it is on the closely tilled farms of the West.

LEGAL RIGHTS OF THE CAT.

By EDWARD HOWE FORBUSH.

During the past century cat lovers have made many attempts to prove that their pets are entitled to some rights under the law, but English law seems to find little merit in their claims. An article clerk, writing to the London Standard, says:

It is clearly laid down in "Addison on Torts" that a person is not justified in killing his neighbor's cat or dog which he finds on his land, unless the animal is in the act of doing some injurious act which can be prevented by its slaughter. If a person sets on his land a trap for foxes, and baits it with such strong-smelling meat as to attract his neighbor's dog or cat on to his land to the trap, and such animal is injured or killed, he is liable for the cat, though he had no such intention and though the animal ought not to have been on his land.

The French courts have given the cat owner no damages in such or similar cases. The local magistrate of Fontainebleau heard a case in which a man, annoyed by neighboring cats, kept traps in his garden and caught fifteen. The neighbors combined to bring him to justice. The judge decided in favor of the neighbors, but in a higher correctional tribunal the decision was reversed.* In some European countries cats are outside the law the moment they leave their owner's premises, or as soon as they have

passed beyond a certain radius from a building. In certain German cities cats are licensed also, but have no rights when they have passed certain limits. Herr Friedrich Schwabe, head of the von Berlepsch School of Bird Protection at Seebach, writes as follows to Mr. William P. Wharton of Groton (translated from the German):

The law for killing roaming cats varies according to whether it is carried out by those empowered to do so or by owners without authorization. The former may, without further ceremony, shoot any cat, whether roaming wild or not, which they find on their beat, no matter whether the owner is known to them or not. But they (the shooters) must keep a certain distance away from any inhabited building, this distance varying in different States (usually it amounts to 200 metres). In most domains, those having the legal right to shoot may even demand a fee from the owner of the cat, which fee the owner must pay. The owner of a garden or park who has suffered damage on account of bird-catching cats need only refer to paragraph 228 of our code of civil law if he wishes to legally justify the killing of cats. "After this any one who harms or destroys a foreign object in order to ward off threatened danger from himself or from some other person does not commit an illegal act, provided the harm or destruction is necessary for warding off the danger, and provided the

*The Cat, Past and Present, translated from the French of M. Champfleury, with notes by Mrs. Cashel Hoey, 1885, pp. 65, 66.

damage is not out of proportion to the danger." Applied to the cat question that means: The owner of a garden in which birds brood may kill cats appearing there if he is able to prove that these cats prey upon the birds and their broods. To be sure, judicial decisions unfavorable to owners of gardens, these owners having killed cats, are not lacking. But in these cases there were culpable accessory circumstances, such as the use of firearms without a permit, or inadmissible nearness to inhabited buildings.

Our laws are unquestionably inadequate, and for that reason the government and the representatives of the people will very soon be obliged to take new measures for the protection of birds.

The experiment of taxing cats has also been tried in order to reduce their number, but this measure has been taken only by towns, and the result cannot yet be seen.

An important point of view is given, in any event, by the fact that the domestic cat—with you in America as well as here with us—cannot be considered and esteemed a native animal belonging to the lineal fauna, but that it is an imported stranger which one can justly return to the house of its owner. There is no reason why the privilege of roaming about freely, denied other domestic animals, should be given to the cat.

According to Dr. Clifton F. Hodge this is practically the solution of the problem reached by Baron von Berlepsch in Germany, and there cities provide traps which are continually kept baited and set for stray cats. According to this writer Hamburg has 300 such traps that during the three years previous to the publication of his book had rid the city of 6,226 cats. He mentions Berlin, Hamburg, Elberfeld, Barmen, Frankfort, Lineburg, Nuremberg, Pirna, Oels, Breslau, etc., as making official provision for the destruction of cats, and states that in Munster there has existed for some years an "Anti-Cat Society" which has already destroyed several thousand of these "beasts of prey."

In Europe the cat owner seems to have been defeated in the higher courts. In America the owners of domesticated ani-

mals have their rights defined by law, but the status of the cat seems to have been determined largely by the opinion of the presiding justice, who may regard it as domesticated or as a wild animal.

The following is an extract from a newspaper report of a portion of the decision of Judge Utley of Worcester in a case where Dr. Dellinger was arraigned for injuring and destroying cats that were molesting birds that he was engaged to care for:

A cat is a wild animal. There is no wilder animal in Christendom. It is an animal that can't be controlled and you can't tell what it will do when it gets out of its owner's sight. A man on his own property has a right to protect it, and when wild animals encroach on it, he is justified in getting rid of them. I find on the evidence presented in this case that the defendant was justified in doing what he did. I don't mean, however, to assert that a man has the right to throw stones promiscuously any place. The defendant is discharged. (Judge Samuel Utley, Criminal Session of the Central District Court, in re Thomas Butler vs. Dr. Oris P. Dellinger.—Worcester Evening Post, September 27, 1905.)

There is a later decision in Maine which is favorable to the cat, but the circumstances were reversed, as the owner of the cat was the defendant.

The following appears in the Rural New-Yorker:

A man in Maine owned a valuable fox terrier dog which went upon a neighbor's property and chased a cat. While it was doing so the owner of the cat shot the dog and killed it. The dog's owner sued the neighbor for damages, and won a verdict on the ground that the cat is not a domestic animal and therefore not entitled to legal protection. * * * The cat owner was not satisfied and appealed the case, his lawyer making a long argument to show that the cat is even more a domestic animal than a dog. He succeeded, and the court reversed the lower verdict, which means that the cat owner was justified in protecting his property. He apparently had as much right to kill a dog which chased his cat as he would

have in the case of dogs found worrying sheep.

It will be noted that in both the above cases the owner of the property or his agent were sustained. A man killing another's cat or dog on his own property may have some legal rights that he might not claim in killing it on the owner's property. Malicious killing probably would be unlawful also, as it might come under the head of malicious mischief, and cruelty must be avoided. Dr. Henry Hall of Binghamton, N. Y., was convicted June 8, 1912, before Judge Albert Hotchkiss of the City Court of Binghamton, apparently not for killing a cat, but for failing to kill it and leaving it to suffer. The doctor shot, with a rifle, a cat that was attempting to kill a bird at his drinking fountain, and left it for dead, without taking means to determine whether it was dead or alive. The cat returned to consciousness with its jaw broken, and crawled away. The doctor was fined \$25, appealed the case to the County Court of Broome County before Judge Parsons, and there the conviction was sustained December 27, 1912. This seems to have been a conviction for cruelty to animals. Had the cat been shot dead the plaintiff would have had no case. Appolinary Kane of Binghamton was sentenced by Judge Hotchkiss in July, 1915, to thirty days in jail for shooting a cat which he claimed had been killing his chickens. The shot mutilated the cat, and Mr. Kane then went into the house and left the cat to die in agony. It behooves those who shoot cats to beware of bungling and unnecessary cruelty, and to finish the task if they begin it. But there seems to be no law to prevent the humane killing of stray cats anywhere, unless one breaks laws against shooting within city limits, within a certain distance of a dwelling, on the public highway or on public lands; provided also that the trespass laws are not broken in the act. Those who intend to poison or trap cats in Massachusetts should observe the provisions of chapter 626 of the Acts of 1913, which reads as follows:

Section 1. Whoever shall place or distribute poison in any form whatsoever, for the purpose of killing any animal, or

shall construct, erect, set, repair or tend any wire snare for the purpose of catching or killing any animal, shall be punished by a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars: provided, that nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit any person from placing in or near his house, barns or fields, poison intended to destroy rats, woodchucks or other pests of a like nature or insects of any kind.

Section 2. Any person who shall set, place, maintain or tend a steel trap with a spread of more than six inches or a steel trap with teeth jaws, or a "stop-thief" or choke trap with an opening of more than six inches shall be punished by a fine of not exceeding one hundred dollars.

Section 3. Any person who shall set, maintain, or tend a steel trap on enclosed land of another without the consent in writing of the owner thereof, and any person who shall fail to visit at least once in twenty-four hours, a trap set or maintained by him shall be punished by a fine not exceeding twenty dollars.

Section 70, chapter 212, Revised Laws (1902), provides a penalty for cruelly abandoning any domestic animal. Only a few convictions for deserting cats have been secured under this law for the reason that it often is hard to prove which has been abandoned, cat or owner.

Send in the News.

We appreciate the fact that game breeders are very busy during the breeding season but we are sure they find time to read the interesting notes sent to The Game Breeder by our readers.

It only takes a few minutes to write a few lines about the game and the vermin, about the successes, accidents or even failures. All are interesting. All tend to help the "more game" movement on its way and to make new converts.

We hope soon to enlarge the publication and to print many more practical short stories of actual occurrences.

An Angler's Tale.

Priscilla asked John Alden why he didn't speak for himself.

"I don't talk when I fish," he answered.

A COURT'S OPINION.

In the case of *People vs. Buffalo Fish Co.*, 164 N. Y. 93, 52 L. R. A. 803, the Court of Appeals of New York was called up to pass on the validity of a statute "forbidding any person to * * * be possessed of certain fish during the close season therein prescribed." The defendants bought fish in Canada to sell in New York and were charged with being possessed of them in New York. The court held if the law covered the case and made criminal "being possessed of imported fish," it was unconstitutional and void because it was a violation of the interstate commerce provisions of the Federal Constitution. In deciding the case, Judge O'Brien, speaking for the court, said: "An act to protect game or to promote health may be so framed and applied as to restrict and regulate traffic in some article of commerce, and when it does it is just as obnoxious as if passed for that purpose under a title expressing that very intent. * * * " "But it is argued that, unless the statute is construed to inhibit the possession during the closed season of fish imported from a foreign country, it cannot be enforced, but will be evaded by false swearing. This means that if the summer-hotel keeper, the owner of the private pond, and the foreign importer, under the circumstances stated, are allowed to escape, then someone else may falsely pretend that his possession of fish during the close season was obtained in a similar manner, when in fact he is really guilty of violating the law by procuring them from the waters of the state. This argument seems to be based upon the notion that unless the innocent are convicted the guilty may escape. It assumes that in the interpretation of a penal statute, such a remote danger must be anticipated and guarded against. I think it puts rather too much faith in the potency of perjury as a defense to an honest claim, and too little in the capacity of courts and juries to distinguish truth from falsehood. When it was proposed to change the

criminal law and permit an accused person to testify in his own behalf, the proposition was for a long time resisted by similar arguments. It was said that the temptation to swear falsely under such circumstances was so great that crime could never be punished if the accused was permitted to testify in his own behalf, whereas experience has shown that a person on trial for a penal offense very rarely, if ever, helps his case by falsehood. Indeed, it may be safely asserted that the new law, instead of thwarting justice, as anticipated, has been a very great aid in the enforcement of the criminal law. There is not the slightest reason for giving a strained and unnatural construction to the statute in question in order to meet such an imaginary danger. The possession of the fish or game at the forbidden season, within this State, is *prima facie* evidence that the possessor has violated the law, and the burden is then cast upon him of proving facts to show that the possession was lawful. If he has no better defense than one based on falsehood, it will be entirely safe to trust to the power of cross-examination and the intelligence of the court and jury to detect and expose it, as in offenses of much greater magnitude. * * * " "The main proposition, after all, in support of the plaintiff's contention, is based more upon policy and expediency than upon law. When fairly stated, it is this: A statute to protect fish and game within the State does not protect unless it inhibits the importation of fish and game from a foreign country or another State. When this proposition is carefully examined, it will be found to be not only without any foundation in fact or in experience, but, when applied to cases like the one in hand, the manifest tendency is to defeat the very object of the law, which, of course, must be assumed to be protection. The individual who is permitted to hunt and fish in Canada or in another State, and bring with him here the fruits of his labor, will do

very much less of hunting and fishing at home. If his warfare upon game or fish is carried on in a foreign country or in another State, it would seem to be unwise to prevent him for the purpose of protecting fish and game at home. The game law that cuts off the supply from abroad diminishes, rather than increases and protects, the supply at home. Legislation that would prohibit the defendant from drawing a supply of fresh fish from Canada during the close season simply furnishes a strong temptation to procure it from the waters of this State, even in violation of law. It is said that there is a passion inherent in man to kill or capture game, in spite of penal laws forbidding it. If that be so, it would seem to be wisdom to allow the passion to expend itself by permitting those who enjoy it to capture and become possessed of fish or game in Canada, or in other States where the law permits it, rather than furnish a temptation to violate the law at home

during the close season. To forbid the taking of fish in a foreign country or in another State, where it is lawful, by our own citizens, during the season, or the possession within the State of what is so taken, tends to exterminate rather than protect fish here. The legislator who would protect the forests of this State by prohibiting the importation of lumber or timber from Canada or from other States would be rated as a visionary theorist, but in a certain degree that is the principle upon which the argument for the People in this case proceeds for the protection of fish and game. What is true with respect to the forests is equally true of every other natural product of the soil or of the waters of the State, so that it is plain that the plaintiff's theory of this case, when put into complete operation all around the boundaries of the State, would, instead of protecting fish and game, go far to exterminate both."

THE COMPARATIVE VALUE OF FOODS FOR RAINBOW TROUT AND OTHER SALMONOIDS.

By CHARLES L. PAIGE.

To demonstrate the comparative value of different kinds of food for young salmonoids with any degree of exactness must necessarily entail very patient and careful investigation. The fishes experimented with will have to be maintained in separate pools, under identical provisions of environment, water supply and area, temperatures, and the possible supplies of natural food carried by or existing in the water or in the pools themselves. Where there exists wide diversity of opinion as to food values for the higher orders of animals, to demonstrate the values of such atomic particles as are collected by the young fish will tax the powers of the most exact scientific analysis. Any demonstration of the maintenance of the fishes will in itself be subject to question as to specific hereditary

influences, climatic or aquatic conditions, prevailing habits of the fishes, and many other circumstances for consideration.

After experiments and study covering a period of many years, supplemented by close observation of the fish in small areas of inclosed water, I can suggest no new form of food artificially prepared superior in any respect to that commonly used in most hatcheries where young salmonoids are fed. For fry I should prefer these foods in the order here named:

1. Raw beef liver, finely ground, for the first five days or week.

2. Fresh lean meat finely ground.

3. Any available fresh lean meat mixed with increasing portions of wheat middlings, fed either in the raw state or after being cooked as a mush.

In the preparation of any meat food

(after five or six days feeding of raw liver alone to newly hatched fry) the fresh liver and meat should be thoroughly ground together with from one-fourth to three-fourths of its weight of wheat middlings. The middlings, in itself good food which will sustain fish indefinitely, is particularly valuable in absorbing and holding the juices of meats and makes a mixture of about the right consistency and gravity to remain in suspension or slowly sink in water, while it is easily distinguished by the fishes once they are accustomed to it. It is a cheap and generally available staple. Food prepared as described may be readily dried and preserved for emergencies where a fresh supply of meat is lacking.

That millions of trout and salmon fry have been and are being maintained in overcrowded hatching troughs upon a diet of beef liver would appear to be positive evidence of its great value, while it is commonly as easily and cheaply obtainable as any form of animal food.

The chief object of this paper, however, is to suggest that young salmon and salmonoids reared in captivity should be given the minimum quantity of artificial food and a maximum area and flow of water containing their natural food, for which they should be permitted to forage. Prepared food should supplement the natural supply where water area is overcrowded with young fish, or where drouth, cold or other climatic conditions interfere with the normal natural supply. In support of this view is offered the following summary of well-known or readily ascertained facts and examples:

1. That along the salmon rivers and trout streams fry existing under natural provisions are commonly in excellent physical condition, mortality among them being mainly caused by abnormal disturb-

ances of the nests, such as floods, drouths or extraordinary climatic changes, or by the depredations of natural enemies, birds, reptiles and other animals.

2. That salmonoids are not surface-feeding fishes exclusively, but seek food suspended in the water and on the shores and bottom surfaces accessible to them; and that of necessity they must collect more or less vegetable and sedimentary matter; in fact, that they are rather omnivorous than piscivorous or carnivorous fishes.

3. That under normal natural conditions a continuous succession of seasonable aquatic and insectivorous foods, much of which will embrace vegetable matter in some form, is supplied to the young fish.

4. That owing to the minute particles of food matter collected by newly hatched salmonoids, it is doubtless impossible to distinguish with accuracy the natural or instinctive selections made by them, or to determine nutritive values.

5. That it will appear that suitable natural food for salmonoids is abundant in the waters wherever trout and salmon spawn, and that the most available, economical and scientific provision for young salmonoids may be made in the preparation and adaptation of sufficient water area in normal natural condition, but subject to control as regards floods, drouths, freezing to extremes, and the exclusion of destructive animals. Controlled areas of stream or prepared runs should provide for the absolute regulation of the water flow, and should contain trap pools or other devices for collecting the fish, excluding them at the end of the spawning season, and finally reducing the flow of water to a minimum for the purpose of capturing the fry or young as may be desired.—Bulletin of the Bureau of Fisheries.



THE MASKED BOB-WHITE.

This singularly colored quail, Elliot says, is unlike any other species inhabiting America north of Mexico. It is found in southern Arizona and Sonora, Mexico, especially in the district lying between the gulf coast of Sonora and the Barboquivary range, and is abundant between the last-named mountains and the Plomoso. Mr. Hubert Brown, of Tucson, Arizona, was the first to obtain this bird within the limits of the United States and he says that it is found on the Sonoita Creek, about sixty miles north of the Sonora line, and from the Sonoita valley it ranges in a westerly direction within Arizona territory for a hundred miles through a strip of country not thirty miles wide. In a wild state this quail does not appear to be nearly so abundant in the country it inhabits (at least on our side of the line) as are the other species of quail that are indigenous to our soil and inhabitants of the same state. The masked quail found in Arizona are apparently but an overflow across our border from the main body of birds in Sonora. They are met with in the valley, on the table-lands and even as high as 6,000 feet, two having been killed at that elevation in the Huachuca Mountains, in a cañon about fifteen miles north of the border but nowhere can they be considered abundant.

The masked quail has a call note which resembles exactly that of the Northern species and the habits of the two species are very similar. * * * It is a very handsome bird and in the sun the breast of the male appears red and makes him a very conspicuous object. The body is plump and of about the same size as Gambel's quail. The female resembles closely the Texas quail. The dimensions given by Elliot are: Total length, $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches; wing, $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Since the dimensions of the Northern bobwhite, as given by the same author are: Total length about $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches; wing, $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches, it would appear that our bobwhite is the larger bird.

Mr. Herbert Brown, writing about this bird in *Forest and Stream*, says in actual size the Gambel quail is the larger, although the masked quail is so plump that it appears to overmatch the other bird. Mr. Brown predicted that the introduction of live-stock into southern Arizona bade fair to exterminate the masked bobwhite by the distribution of its nests and eggs by horses and cattle as well as by the eating of the cover among which it lives. In 1909 he wrote that his prediction had come true but said the bird appeared to be getting a good foothold in Sonora about seventy miles south of the line.

Elliot says: "From having been taken at as lofty an elevation as 6,000 feet it would seem that this handsome species was hardy and it might be a profitable bird to introduce in the Northern States.

I once heard of several of these birds being shot on Long Island, N. Y. The sportsman who shot them described the birds accurately and I contemplated going with him to see if I could secure a specimen. He said he had found the covey on several occasions and since we both had excellent dogs it seemed likely we could find the birds. I was busy at the time making some illustrations for a magazine and shortly after finishing the work I left the neighborhood not having found the time to go in pursuit of the masked bobwhite. I have always believed the birds were introduced by one of the many clubs which purchased and liberated quail on the island.

The Game Conservation Society wishes to secure a lot of these birds and several members of the society will attempt to make them abundant. The society will pay a good price for the birds and it is to be hoped some of the dealers will secure them. They no doubt can be saved from extinction and made plentiful if some breeding stock is procured.

Subscribe for *The Game Breeder*, only \$1 a year.

NOTES FROM THE GAME FARMS AND PRESERVES.

The Technique of Ant Eggs.

We received a letter from a member of the Game Conservation Society asking how to separate the ants from the eggs when he gathered them, "all mixed up together," as the boarding house keeper said in response to a request for white meat by the one who passed his plate: "White meat! dark meat; all mixed up together!" he observed as he filled the plate.

An excellent gamekeeper, to whom we referred the inquiry, passed and suggested that the Spratts, from whom he said he procured all his ant eggs, might know how to subdivide the mixture.

A letter from the Spratts informs us that the ant eggs are all imported but that importations have ceased probably on account of the war.

We recently heard that the submarine liner Deutschland had brought in valuable dye stuffs and a reader said that was all very well but he wanted to know when the submarine would bring the genuine frankfurters and pilsner. Possibly when these valuable products are brought over it will be found desirable to add ant eggs to the cargo.

Meantime, as the Spratts suggest, there is a good opportunity for an American industry. We have plenty of eggs. All we need to know is how to prepare them for sale. We shall be glad to hear from any reader who knows the technique.

Editor The Game Breeder:

In your July issue you have a note on ants' eggs and express the hope that we can throw some light on the subject.

Unfortunately we cannot.

We have never been able to buy them in this country and have always imported them. Lately the supply from Europe has entirely ceased, probably due to war conditions. We believe they could be collected here in large quantities and

inexpensively. Surely this would be a good opportunity for vacation work on the part of students wishing to add to their pocket money or help to pay their way through college.

We have no personal knowledge of the technique of ant-egg gathering and we do not know how the eggs are separated from the ants.

By the way, without having looked into the matter, is not the so-called ant-egg of commerce the advanced stage of the egg or perhaps the pupa?

SPRATT'S PATENT, LTD.

Newark, N. J.

Quail Breeding.

One of our California readers says: "We are located on ground which would hardly have been selected for quail breeding and if we are as successful with them as now seems likely it should silence all skeptics. Our eggs have hatched well and so far we are raising ninety-five per cent. of the birds. I shall send you a story about the quail breeding with some photographs."

We heard recently about a very satisfactory sale of a few thousand quail and we hope it will not be long before breeders sell these birds and their eggs as freely as they now sell deer, ducks and pheasants. The game laws intended to protect the vanishing wild game surely never were intended to apply to game produced by industry and owned by game breeders. We doubt if many game officers will be inclined in the future to prevent the sale and shipping of any game owned by breeders. If any do, they should be reported to The Game Breeder. We are always willing to bring cases of interference by wardens to the attention of State officers and we are pleased to observe that the best of them see no objection to the sale of game for propaga-

tion by those who own it. The State game department surely was not created to prevent the increase of game.

Mallard Mating.

One of our Iowa readers who has a good flock of "genuine wild mallards" writes at first he had trouble in mating them but in the two years past they have become so domesticated that they pay little attention to any mating habits. He says that the first copy of The Game Breeder that he ever saw came to him last April and he subscribed for it at once. It was then too late to advertise but he says "I will have an ad for you next spring."

It is interesting to learn that the wild mallards soon became polygamous, and it is especially interesting to know that the stock is pure. Eggs from such stock will sell readily. We regret that our reader says his letter is not for publication. We always obey such instructions but we are quite sure there will be no objection to our stating one of the interesting facts in the interesting letter.

Snakes.

The Game Conservation Society:

I noticed in a recent issue a story about snakes. Now I do not pretend to know much about snakes but I have killed a lot of blacksnakes, both the water snakes and the land variety on our various trout streams in this section and almost without exception I have found traces of brook trout; in some cases the fish were not yet swallowed and from that to nearly digested fish.

It seems to me that these two snakes should be classed with the rattlesnake and copperhead as I believe they kill more edible fish than all the fishermen in this section, I mean in numbers not by weight.

OSCAR S. WEED.

North Rose, New York.

Snake and Wild Turkey.

Perhaps you would be interested in a little incident we had with a snake a few days ago. My underkeeper was on a ladder at the house when he heard a young wild turkey, about three weeks

old, going through the brush at a good speed and directly back of it was a 6 foot 6 inch blacksnake following within twenty inches. My man got it with a club. I did not know a snake could travel so fast.

We are getting a lot of wood cats, mink, skunks, hawks and one owl. It seems as though we need vermin hunters. I have three men on the preserve and each carries a gun, or has one within easy reach when working.

Ohio.

JOHN R. GAMMETER.

Breeding Wild Turkeys.

The Portage Heights Game Farms, Akron, Ohio, reports the successful breeding of wild turkeys as follows; "From five hens and one tom turkey we got 265 eggs. We have hatched and now living 140 turkeys and we have more eggs set. We feed exactly as we feed our pheasants. The old birds are pinioned and they have two acres of field and brush. They are driven into a shed every night to keep them tame. I am having some wild stock trapped to add to my flock. I think turkeys are much easier to rear than pheasants although they require a lot more territory. Our young birds range over a half mile and come home at night.

"We have 3,000 pheasants in the field and sold 10,000 eggs."

A Quail Tent.

Mr. Wm. Mascall, a rancher residing near the town of Daryville, Oregon, is much interested in the preservation of game birds. He found it difficult to keep the snow swept clean where he was feeding a covey of quail last winter and finally conceived the idea of pitching a tent, after which time the birds had no difficulty in finding the feed at all times, and it is said that they came to roost there.—The Oregon Sportsman.

More Quail.

We recently heard of two sales of several thousand live quail for propagation. In both cases the transactions were entirely legal from our point of view.

Pheasants, Ruffed Grouse, Trout and Bass.

We would advise our readers who wish to secure some good shooting and fishing to write to the Longwood Valley Sportsmen's Club, whose advertisement appears on another page. The pictures illustrating the article about this club indicate that the ground should have many grouse and woodcock. We are informed there are some pheasants and quails and that it is proposed to increase the number of these and other game birds. There are also many deer on the ground included in the preserve. The proposition appears especially attractive. The people interested are the right kind and full particulars will be sent to anyone who would like to know more about this attractive place. Write to The Longwood Club, care of Game Breeder, 150 Nassau St., New York.

A New Duck Trouble.

Mr. C. H. Shaw, of the Arden Game Farm, writes: "Do you happen to be familiar with a difficulty which we are having with some of our young ducks, which develops at the age of about three weeks with birds which have been doing well up to that time? There is a swelling below the eye, a little forward. Dissection shows the cavity there to be filled with a cheesy pus and the same appears on the top of the tongue near its base. The bird loses its voice; is finally unable to eat and dies apparently of starvation. This has occurred with three broods with hens and with one artificially brooded bunch. The loss from this trouble has not been very great, but it appears to be communicated from one to another. In the beginning it looks as if the bird had caught cold; but it seems to progress through the brood after that. I would be glad if you would refer this to anyone who may have information on the subject, in case you are not personally familiar with it."

[We have reared thousands of wild ducks but never had any diseases, excepting the well known "straddles" or sunstroke, due to the heat and cramps, due to the young birds getting into cold water. We have inspected many more thousands of wild ducks on many preserves and never observed or heard of the

trouble referred to. We shall be glad to hear from game keepers if any of them have encountered this disease or know what it is. The matter will be referred by letter to scientists who should know the disease if it is at all common.—Editor.]

What Is an Owl?

Mr. Montanus of the Middle Island Club sends the following:

A lady selecting a hat at a milliner's asked, cautiously: "Is there anything about these feathers that might bring me into trouble with the Bird Protection Society?" "Oh, no, madam," said the milliner. "But did they not belong to some bird?" persisted the lady. "Well, madam," returned the milliner pleasantly "these feathers are the feathers of a howl; and the howl, you know, madam, seein' as 'ow fond 'e is of mice, is more of a cat than a bird."—Philadelphia Star. [Referred to the Audubon Society.—Editor.]

Shall the Farm Be Purchased.

Editor The Game Breeder:

I am about to purchase a farm of 250 acres in Virginia and before doing so I wish to ascertain if I can raise game on it. Do the Virginia laws permit game breeding and the sale of game?

New York.

R. C.

[We are expecting daily to receive a copy of the new law enacted and we will announce its terms later. It creates the office of game commissioner, and we suggest that you write to this officer at Richmond, Virginia, also the parties whose names and addresses are inclosed, who are raising and selling game in that State. If the new law does not expressly permit the sale of pheasants, turkeys, ducks, quail and other game produced by industry, we believe it will be safe for you to go right ahead and breed and sell all you can. We doubt if anyone will ever be arrested again anywhere for producing food on a farm. The singularity of this old crime does not appeal to modern courts, and the tendency everywhere is to acquit prisoners charged with food producing.

Of course, should you purchase the farm it will be worth more when all doubt about your being able to use it as desired is removed. If we find there is danger of game farmers being arrested in Virginia, we will let you know and suggest another State for your business.—Editor.]

MORE GAME AND FEWER GAME LAWS.

THE STATE AND THE HAWK.

Mr. Joseph W. Lippincott, Bethayres, Pa., writing about the \$1 bounty paid for hawks in Ohio in *The Guide to Nature*, deplores the fact that thousands of valuable hawks must perish and be thus lost to communities as mousers and insect destroyers in order that a few rascals in their ranks may pay the just penalty of misdeeds.

It does seem a pity for the State to encourage the destruction of all hawks, if such be the case. Some hawks do comparatively little damage and undoubtedly they do much good.

We have no doubt that Mr. Lippincott, who says he is a farmer and bird lover, will agree with us that it is proper on game farms to control the hawks which are observed to be eating game. He is aware, no doubt, that when game birds are made abundant for profit or for sport and kept so no hawks are needed to destroy insects. Often there are not enough insects to fully supply the needs of the game and on some preserves it has been found necessary to purchase some insect food and to supply crissel, made by the Spratts, and other animal food for the over-abundant game. As to the rodents on game farms, the pheasants, like poultry, will destroy mice and a few smart terriers will destroy more rodents than a good flock of hawks will destroy. The game farmer who produces game for profit or for sport should decide what is beneficial and what is harmful and act accordingly. This he usually does.

We are by no means in favor of the total destruction of all of the harmful species. We enjoy seeing the high soaring hawk and do not object to his striking a game bird once in a while, but we believe he should have to hustle past a pretty good gamekeeper to indulge his appetite for game, and that is just what happens on most game farms and preserves.

Mr. Lippincott complains about an Ohio law. We believe in his own State poison is largely used by the State authorities to destroy many species of vermin and the State has or had a hawk bounty law. We do not pretend to know

what the laws are at any time in all of the States. They are changed too often for any one to know what they are.

Hay Fever.

The Game Breeder does not accept every advertisement that comes along. Since the magazine is supported by members of the Game Conservation Society it has been deemed wise to carefully consider an advertisement before accepting it. The hay fever cure advertised in this issue has been indorsed by reputable people who have been benefited by it. It has been submitted to authorities, National and State, who have decided that it is certainly not injurious. Hay fever comes at a bad time of the year for prairie-chicken shooters and bass-anglers and we would advise the afflicted to write and get the numerous testimonials which have been given the advertiser by those who have been benefited.

The discoverer is a good pheasant breeder and having given the remedy to friends, whose friends in turn wished to try it, an endless chain was soon created, he says, which required too much postage for free distribution.

Indian Violators in Colorado.

The year 1914 has been no exception as regards the invasion of Colorado by the Indians from the Uintah and Ouray Reservations in Utah. It has been the custom of these Indians to organize a band and cross the borders of our State in the vicinity of the Douglas and Piceance Creeks, southwest of Rangely in Rio Blanco County. These trips are usually made in the fall of the year, while the deer are coming down from their summer haunts to the winter feeding grounds.

Early in October the department received advices to the effect that a band of one hundred Indians, with wagons, tents, and a large number of horses, had crossed our border, and were encamped in the Douglas Creek district. I reported this matter to the Bureau of Indian Affairs at Washington, and dispatched several wardens to the Indian camp, with

instructions to persuade them to leave Colorado.

The Indians were located about sixty miles southwest of Meeker, and it was found that they had killed but two deer. Wardens from this department gave the Indians forty-eight hours in which to leave the State, pitched their own camp a few miles distant, and awaited developments. On the eve of the second day the wardens were happily surprised in noting that the Indians had decided to leave, and escorted them to the Utah border.

I have received assurances from the Bureau of Indian Affairs at Washington to the effect that orders have been issued to the superintendent in charge at Fort Duchesne, Utah, that the Indians be retained on the reservation and not allowed to hunt in Colorado. The Indian superintendent, upon receiving these instructions, immediately dispatched Indian police who aided our department materially in ridding Colorado of these game violators.—Report of Game and Fish Commissioners.

Mining in Two Inches of Ground.

In a note sent by the du Pont Company, we are informed that lead mining on trap shooting grounds is profitable. Trap shooters have the same shooting grounds year after year, "week in and week out," and since the gunners stand on the same old line the shot falls on a comparatively small area where it can be collected.

The method of securing the lead is simple. The ground is skimmed about one and a half inches deep. The top soil is put in piles and when dry it is sifted by screens run by a gasoline engine.

Twenty-three tons of lead were procured in front of the traps of the du Pont Gun Club.

"MORE!"

More game; more fish; fewer game laws are now common and oft-repeated words from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

A traveler from the West coast called recently on The Game Breeder and said that everywhere he went he heard the more game idea and the more game

movement discussed and added that The Game Breeder was always mentioned in the conversation which occurred.

The words "more game" are used to end letters. "Yours for more game" started by somebody.

"More" Frankfurters.

Dyes are important, of course, but how far behind the Deutschland is the unterseeboot bearing the genuine frankfurters and the tanks of Pilsner?

OUTINGS AND INNINGS.

Why are Pheasants like gate-posts?
Because they propagate.

Where Dog Was Useful.

"Why don't you get rid of that dog, son? He is useless and has no spirit." "He's a big help to me in the junk business, dad. Comes home early every day with a kettle tied to his tail."—Louisville Courier Journal.

Wildcat in Hunters' Lodge.

At Philipsburg, Pa., when members of the Crystal Springs Hunting Club visited their quarters in the Clearfield County woods recently they were confronted by a big wildcat. When it showed fight it was quickly despatched. It weighed nearly fifty pounds and was more than four feet long.

Who Was He?

"Father," said a boy of twelve, "who was Shylock?"

"What!" exclaimed his father, "have I sent you to Sunday School for the past six or seven years, only to have you ask me who Shylock was? Shame on you! Get your Bible and find out this minute!" Western Farm Life.

A couple of little boys were discussing matters personal to themselves. One of them asked:

"Do you say your prayers in the morning or at night?"

"At night, of course," said the other. "Anybody can take care of himself in the daytime!"

The Game Breeder

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

EDITED BY DWIGHT W. HUNTINGTON

NEW YORK, AUGUST, 1916.

TERMS:

10 Cents a Copy—\$1.00 a year in Advance.

Postage free to all subscribers in the United States.
To All Foreign Countries and Canada, \$1.25.

THE GAME CONSERVATION SOCIETY, INC.
PUBLISHERS, 150 NASSAU ST., NEW YORK

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Telephone, Beekman 3685.

"The State owns the game."—Game Protectionist.

Does the State own the snakes?

Ever since Warren Leach, an Illinois game breeder, pointed out that the State did not own his buffaloes, elk, deer, wild geese and other game, there seems to have been a decided doubt everywhere if the State owns all of the game. Many game farmers now show more game per acre than the State ever dreamed of and the States wisely are permitting the owners of game to sell it. "More sales, more game," of course.

"MORE" SNAKES.

The more game we have the more snakes will surely be destroyed, no matter who owns them. Mr. Williams did a public service when he sent the article, "Snakes and Snakes," which was published in *The Game Breeder* for June.

Last month we heard about what the snakes do in North Carolina; in this issue breeders in New York and Ohio tell us about their (?) snakes. The pursuit of a young wild turkey by a snake is especially interesting and timely now that the wild turkeys are becoming abundant as a sporting bird. We have always known that the snake was speedy but in most cases we observed that he secured his

game by ambush or by a stealthy approach. We hope the story about the attempt of the blacksnake to run down a wild turkey will prompt other readers to contribute to our snake lore.

AN INTERESTING REPORT.

We are especially interested in the reports from the Portage Heights Game Farm, published in this issue.

The proprietor wrote some time ago that he had expended about ten thousand dollars on game protection, "foolishly as I see it now. Your paper opened my eyes."

It must be gratifying to the eye to observe 3,000 pheasants and a big lot of wild turkeys on a farm where a few years ago there were only game law restrictions which prevented the owner from having any game. We hope before long to hear of the sale of a few thousand quail from this interesting place. Easily they can be bred wild in the fields and woods now that the "woods-cats," snakes and other vermin are vanishing before an armed force of three guns.

Three thousand quail easily will sell for \$5,000. The force now on the ground can produce them since if "the keepers look after the vermin the game will look after itself," as Owen Jones said about the gray partridges.

OUR QUAILS OR PARTRIDGES.

We are more and more convinced not alone from experiments made by the editor of *The Game Breeder* but also from the practical results obtained by a large number of quail clubs and interested preserve owners that the best method of breeding quail or partridges for sport is to breed the birds in a wild state in protected fields which have been made especially safe and attractive. The partridges of the old world have been made tremendously abundant in many places by the methods we advise and these birds are similar in their breeding habits to our American species.

Wild birds, undoubtedly, produce the healthiest offspring just as wild trout and other fishes do. The young birds in the

care of their natural parents quickly learn to be on their guard against natural enemies and they are taught to seek the natural foods which vary with the seasons. Hand-reared quail are without experience when they are liberated and, since the natural enemies of game are far more abundant in America than they are in countries where the game is properly looked after, and where vermin is closely controlled, the birds reared in captivity often fall an easy prey to the natural enemies.

A knowledge of hand-rearing is valuable since it is desirable to save the eggs from nests which have been exposed by farm machinery and from nests in exposed situations. It should be regarded only as a supplemental work; the main effort should be to produce the birds abundantly in every field. It has been found an easy and inexpensive matter to make the birds as abundant as they should be without resort to any artificial methods. The hand rearing of pheasants and wild ducks is highly desirable in America as it has been found to be in the older countries where large numbers of birds are produced on comparatively small areas both for sport and for profit.

We should follow the methods of the older countries in the handling of our quail or partridges, and these methods are almost exclusively wild breeding methods both in England and on the Continent of Europe.

The Game Conservation Society will publish, early in the fall, a practical book on quail breeding for sport and for profit. The results obtained on many farms in America will be fully described and illustrated with diagrams showing how to make the fields safe and attractive. There will be a chapter on hand rearing, giving the experience of many American breeders who have been successful in rearing quail in captivity and suggestions as to the places where such tame game should be liberated.

We have about an hundred members who are hand-rearing quail or who have done so successfully—that is to say, they have reared a few, and in some cases a few hundred quail. One of these breed-

ers says the hand-reared quail cannot be sold for less than \$25 per dozen. It is significant that we have many more hundreds of members who are breeding quail in a wild state and that they safely shoot a few hundred birds the first season and often thousands of quail are shot every season thereafter. These are quail which would have been eaten by snakes, foxes, hawks, skunks, crows, et al., had not the laws permitted the owners of the birds to breed them and to shoot them. Shooting in America as elsewhere can be made to produce a big lot of game every season—enough for all of the people to have quail on their tables.

MORE WATER.

The more we think about the subject the more we are convinced that the wild ducks need "more" water in many States far more than they need "more" game laws. The draining of highly desirable breeding grounds still goes on. Railways are constructed through the comparatively limited areas where the canvasback and the other desirable wild fowl nested in great abundance. A little illegal shooting on the nest grounds and the destruction by abundant cats and other vermin precedes the draining which, of course, puts an end to the wild fowl in the neighborhood. Let us have "more water" and "fewer game laws."

It has always seemed strange that there should be no objection to a land owner draining his marshes or to the State or province running big ditches through the duck breeding grounds and putting an end to the game when there is opposition to the saving of some of the marshes for profitable wild duck breeding. Fortunately the objection is vanishing rapidly and the sportsmen who do nothing but secure more laws are beginning to realize that it is a good idea to have "more game" and that a big lot of wild ducks will fly out from marshes which are not drained where large numbers are bred for sport and for profit. It is highly important to save some of the marshes and to keep them quiet during the breeding season.

GIVE THE QUAIL AND GROUSE A CHANCE.

We consented reluctantly or perhaps the situation would be better stated by saying that we took our medicine, when the amendments proposed to reform the absurd Bayne law were cut down so as to only permit game breeders to breed pheasants, ducks and deer. The absurdity of only permitting breeders to look after the species which least need their attention and of threatening them with a jail sentence if they should dare to look after our splendid indigenous birds was so evident that we were indignant at the idea of a compromise.

The absurd idea advanced in the original bill was that all birds and even rabbits should be "protected" at all times in so far as making it worth while for any one to look after them was concerned. The amendments which we desired made it legal to look after any species profitably. When the chairman of the Senate Committee, Senator Franklin D. Roosevelt, suggested to the writer that if the breeders be permitted to breed the mallards, ducks and deer, it would not be long before other species could be added to the list and that the compromise would make the passage of the bill easier we believed, as he did, that it would not be long before the legislature could be induced to give the quail, grouse, wild turkeys and other desirable game the same chance for a rapid increase in numbers as was given to mallards, black ducks, pheasants and deer. The time has now arrived.

We wish to see the laws amended so as to make it legal to profitably produce grouse, quail, wild turkeys and any other species of game. It seems absurd to think that it may take a year or two for this common sense idea to prevail in New York. We are pleased to observe that other States already have accepted the idea and that in many States it no longer is a criminal offense to produce any species of food on a farm.

Our plans for the future include the restoration of quail on toast, broiled teal, roast wild turkey and many other desirable dishes, and we shall never cease to demand, for game breeders, the right to

produce profitably and abundantly the birds which most need their attention.

We have been willing to consent to a certain amount of license and tag "foolishness," as Mr. Talbot calls the licensing of breeders and the tagging of game. We insist, however, that the charge for the permits should be nominal, as it is in many States or nothing as it is in Massachusetts, and that the charge for the identification tags should not be more than a few cents for a handful (as the charge for trout tags recently was made in New York) and not 5 cents for each tag. As we have pointed out a reasonable tagging system (the State furnishing the tags to reputable breeders at the cost of production) is in a way beneficial to the breeders since it is a safeguard against the theft and illegal sale of their game by poachers.

The first thing of importance on our program is the amendment of the laws in all States, where amendments still are necessary, so as to permit the profitable breeding of all species. The entire nonsense in the Bayne bill should have been eliminated at the time when a good part of it was knocked out by the combined efforts of the Hotel Men's Associations, the game dealers, the game breeders and a lot of good sportsmen, who worked harmoniously and with some success as is evidenced by the many thousands of pheasants and ducks which now are reared in New York and in other States which copied the New York law.

Will It Come to This?

The days of the hunting dog are numbered. There will, no doubt, be a movement started to wipe the hunting dog off the map. Farmers who have heretofore been driven to distraction by dogs running their stock will have an opportunity at the next election to vote against the nuisance.—Silverton Appeal, Oregon.

Wild Turkeys in the South.

Mr. Edmond A. McIlhenny in his excellent book, "The Wild Turkey and Its Hunting," says: "There are thousands of acres in the South which once were

cultivated, but which are now abandoned and growing up with timbers, brush and grass. Such country affords splendid opportunity for the rearing and perpetuation of the wild turkey. These lands are vastly superior for this purpose than are the solid primeval forests, inasmuch as they afford a great variety of summer food, such as green, tender herbage, berries of many kind, grasshoppers by the million, and other insects in which the turkeys delight. Such a country also affords good nesting retreats, with briar-patches and straw where the nest may be safely hidden, and where the young birds may secure safe hiding places from animals and birds of prey; but alas! at present not from trappers, baiters, and pot hunters. Check these and the abandoned plantations of the South would soon be alive with turkeys."

The quail, or partridge, as they call bobwhite in the South, also can be made to swarm on the places Mr. McIlhenny describes provided gamekeepers be employed to control the natural enemies of the grouse as well as the trappers, baiters and pot hunters referred to by Mr. McIlhenny. I have seen the quail so abundant on such places that the dogs pointed a second covey often before we reached the scattered birds of the first covey. I have seen places where it is perfectly safe to shoot thousands of quail and many turkeys every season. If the laws be amended so as to permit sportsmen of small means to rent the shooting on such places and sell some of the game to help pay expenses thousands of guns soon can have fine shooting in places where now there is none and at very small expense.

The sale of some of the game at present prices would pay all the expenses, I am sure and soon double the value of the lands used for game.

Book Reviews.

The Science of Trapping, by E. Kreps. Revised edition. A. R. Harding publisher. Price, 60 cents.

Fox Trapping, edited and published by A. R. Harding. Price 60 cents.

Fur Farming, written and published by A. R. Harding. Price, 60 cents.

Hunting Dogs. By Oliver Hartley. A. R. Harding Publishing Co. Price, 60 cents.

These little books should interest many readers of The Game Breeder. The Science of Trapping describes the practical methods for capturing fur-bearing animals, the control of many of which is deemed necessary and advisable on game farms and preserves.

Fox Trapping is important since the fox is one of the worst enemies of game and it is a most difficult animal to control unless one knows how.

Fur Farming contains much practical information about the habits of the furbearers and tells how to trap them.

Hunting Dogs describes the handling of game dogs and the training and management of dogs used for night hunting as well as for daylight sport.

The Usual Results.

Editor Game Breeder:

The small advertisement I placed in your most valuable paper sold all my pheasants old and young that I wished to dispose of. If I had hundreds more ring-necks I could have sold them all.

MRS. S. S. HIRSCH.

Illinois.

I have had some offers of a dollar each for wild eggs through the Game Breeder, but I did not supply them as it would pay me better, with the number of birds I have, to set all the eggs; the grown birds bring from twenty to twenty-five dollars. This is not an exorbitant price at all, for the wild poults are certainly more difficult to raise than those of domestic turkeys.

No wonder the game vanishes. Permits are issued for a dollar for every one to destroy it. Permits are refused to those who would take a few birds alive in order to breed them and multiply their numbers.



Champion Mississippi Sport at Stud, Fee \$30.00

Breed to a real bird dog with brains, ambition and the best of blood lines.

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Information Department of **THE GAME BREEDER**, 150 Nassau Street, New York

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Announcements inserted under this head in small type for 3 cents per word. If displayed in heavy type, 5 cents per word. No advertisement accepted for less than 30 cents. Postage stamps accepted in payment.

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WANTED, PHEASANTS.
FOR FALL DELIVERY TWO THOUSAND FULL
winged ring neck pheasants, must be healthy, safe
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other animals. See display advertisement in this issue.
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antry and Game Park.

CANADA WILD GEESE AND THEIR GOSLINGS—
A limited number for sale now—the surest way to start
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FOWL FARMS, Chincoteague Island, Va.

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in this issue. W. J. MACKENSEN, Yardley, Bucks
County, Pa.

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lots or single. Deer, Antelope, Beaver, Mink, Mountain
Lion, Pheasants and Game Birds. Eggs in season.
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Also Swinhoe; state price and number. R. A. CHILES
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Wild Duck Foods

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WATERLILY, CURRITUCK SOUND, N. C.

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Deer And Other Live Game

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All the eggs I ship are guaranteed to be from non-related, pure bred, strong, healthy birds, correctly mated; all eggs are guaranteed not to be over three days old when they leave my farm.

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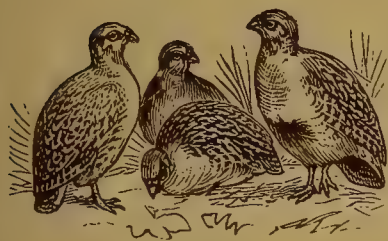
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and will take orders for eggs, delivery in the spring.

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I am prepared to fill the largest orders for these birds and for years I have filled practically all of the large State orders for both Partridges and Pheasants.

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My Pheasant pens hold thousands of Pheasants and I am prepared to furnish these birds in large numbers to State departments, individual breeders and preserves.



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I carry the largest stock in America of ornamental birds and animals. My ponds now contain nearly 200 best Royal Swans of England. I have fine lot of the beautiful pink FLAMINGOES and the very large European PELICANS. Also STORKS, CRANES, PEAFOWL, fancy GEESE and DUCKS. My pheasant pens contain over a thousand Ringneck and fancy PHEASANTS. All stock is kept under practically natural conditions. I have 60 acres of land entirely devoted to my business. Can also promptly furnish BUFFALOES, DEER, LLAMAS, RABBITS, etc.

Orders booked during summer.

I have for years filled practically all the large State Orders and have better facilities for handling large orders than any other firm.

Write me before buying elsewhere—it will pay you to do so. Your visit solicited.
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WM. J. MACKENSEN

Department V.

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Sporting Dogs can be made capable of long-sustained effort by liberally feeding them with

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A RESERVE STOCK OF VITALITY

—just what so many dogs lack at the time when they need it most

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If you are not, and wish to prove their value in a practical way, we will send you samples free.

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THE GAME BREEDER

VOL. IX.

SEPTEMBER, 1916

No. 6

THE OBJECT OF THIS MAGAZINE IS
TO MAKE NORTH AMERICA THE BIGGEST
GAME PRODUCING COUNTRY IN THE WORLD



WILD RICE.

C.

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C.B. Davis - 15

THE PROPAGATION OF WILD BIRDS

By HERBERT K. JOB

This book describes in detail the breeding and management of Pheasants, Quail, Wild Fowl and other Game Birds. It is illustrated with many remarkable photographs of the game which add much to the value of the book. Every game breeder and sportsman should own a copy of this excellent book.

Price, : : \$2.00

THE GAME BREEDER, 150 Nassau St., N. Y.

The Wild Turkey and Its Hunting.

This is a valuable, interesting and well illustrated book, written by E. A. McIlhenny, who is well qualified by reason of a long experience with Wild Turkeys to write about the biggest game bird in the world. Mr. McIlhenny says there are thousands of acres which once were cultivated but which are now abandoned and growing up with timber, brush and grass. Such country affords splendid opportunity for the rearing and perpetuation of the Wild Turkey. The book contains many illustrations.

PRICE, - - - - \$2.50

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THE day is coming when we shall have game in as great plenty in this country as we did fifty years ago—when quail, grouse,

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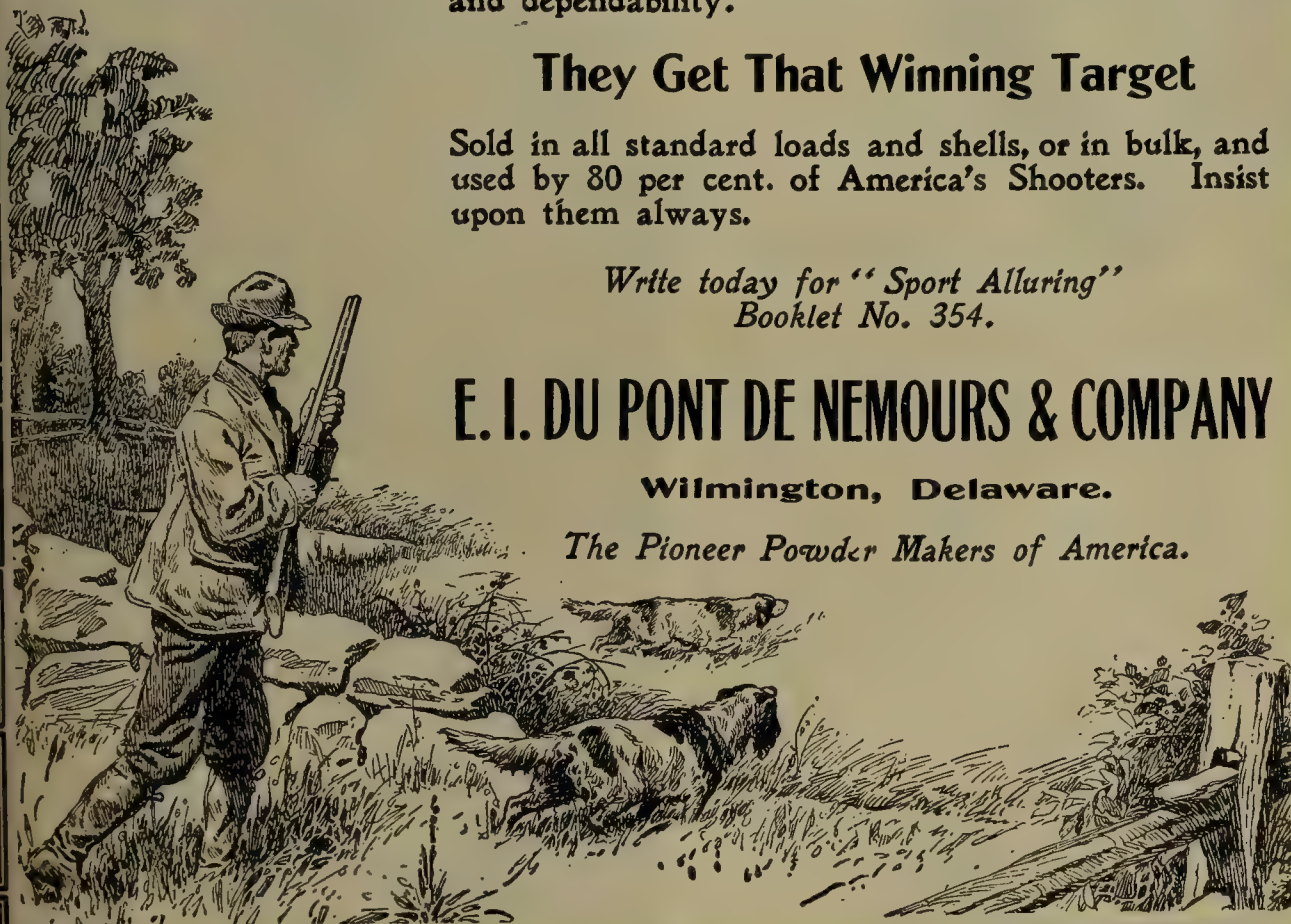
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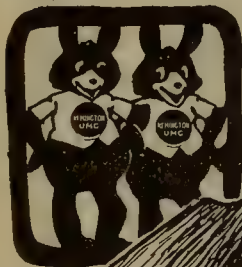
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The Game Breeder

Published Monthly. Entered as second-class matter, July 9, 1915, at the Post Office, New York City, New York, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

VOLUME IX

SEPTEMBER, 1916

NUMBER 6



SURVEY OF THE FIELD.

A Good Montana Resolution.

One of our Montana members sends a clipping, from the Havre Plain Dealer, relating the action of the Montana Game and Fish Commission which well illustrates an old saying of The Game Breeder: "Good game laws like bad ones are catching: One State after another catches them." It is interesting to observe how one game department after another decides that it is a good plan to make the commission of economic importance to all of the people and to see that it represents them all, and that everyone can have plenty of game to eat. Too many departments have been conducted as governmental side shows in the interest of sportsmen alone, who by antagonizing the farmers and other land owners have made it an easy matter for sentimentalists to put an end to dove shooting, quail shooting, grouse shooting and in many States to the shooting of other species—woodcock, upland plover, etc., etc. The resolution prepared by Commissioner M. I. Baldwin, of Kalispell, says "that the game and fish laws of this State should be so amended as to legitimize the propagation of game and fish by private enterprise."

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The Preamble.

The Plain Dealer, under the heading, "The State Board Would Encourage Private Propagation," quotes the State Game and Fish Commission as follows:

"The game and fish of Montana are assets of great value to the people, hence the propagation of game and fish of desirable kinds should be encouraged by the laws of our State. The right of citizens to engage in the business of propagating game, fish and fur-bearing animals should be recognized as lawful, and

calculated to increase the game and fish supply of the State, and that when such game and fish are propagated by private enterprise within private inclosure, the right to sell and dispose of such game and fish under reasonable regulations at all times should be permitted, the same as other privately owned live stock.

"Therefore, it is moved as the sense of the Game and Fish Commission that the game and fish laws of this State should be so amended as to legitimize the propagation of game and fish by private enterprise."

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Opposed to Spring Shooting.

The Montana commission voicing its opposition to the spring shooting of water fowl, adopted the following:

"Whereas the game laws of Montana make it unlawful and a misdemeanor to kill water fowl between the first day of January and the first day of September of each year, thereby abolishing spring shooting of such game, this commission clearly recognizes the wisdom of laws that protect such water fowl during the mating and brooding season, and that such laws are beneficial and do much to conserve such game for the use and benefit of all intelligent and fair-minded sportsmen, but we view with alarm any legislation, whether Federal or of sister States that may restore spring shooting in such State or States and deplore any action or steps that be taken by so-called sportsmen in such behalf in any of said States."

"Resolved by the Montana Game and Fish Commission that the reasonable protection of water fowl, so that American sportsmen may have a fair full season of shooting demands the abolishment of spring shooting in each and every State in the Union."

Montana has an excellent Game and Fish Commission. The members of the commission are E. P. Mathewson of Anaconda, W. M. Bickford of Missoula and M. D. Baldwin of Kalispell. J. L. DeHart, State game warden, is the secretary.

It is to be hoped that the commission may be retained in office until the State is made one of the biggest game produc-

The Game Breeder

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

EDITED BY DWIGHT W. HUNTINGTON

NEW YORK, FEBRUARY, 1917.

TERMS:

10 Cents a Copy—\$1.00 a year in Advance.

Postage free to all subscribers in the United States.
To All Foreign Countries and Canada, \$1.25.

THE GAME CONSERVATION SOCIETY, INC.
PUBLISHERS, 150 NASSAU ST., NEW YORK

D. W. HUNTINGTON, President,

F. R. PEIXOTTO, Treasurer,

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Telephone, Beekman 3685.

THE OPEN SEASON.

The more we consider the matter the more we become convinced that "there is a pleasure in the pathless woods" after game which is far more delightful to the eye and gratifying to the soul than the pursuit of game laws in the legislative halls. We have positively declined to appear before legislative committees and to enter the lobby. Anyone can put us down for a good shoot and a good game dinner and we will agree to shoot a little at the traps during the dinner hour and also when game is not in season provided the traps be kept in readiness and there be plenty of ammunition in the gun room, as there usually is at all well conducted modern game clubs and game breeding associations.

The quail shooting is very good on many fields where we can shoot without fear of the police during January and February. We expect to bring home a lot of birds and to have them broiled for breakfast. We rejoice that since the "Happy Boots Wilson" case we can come home with our quail without going to jail and now we are eager to take the field. Those who want more game laws and who delight in the sport of the lobby may go north or east or west to their State Capitols and recite their little pieces beginning "Where are the buffalo and wild pigeon, etc.?" We prefer our vacation with the setters and the gun in

the southern fields, where the roar of the covey is far more pleasing than the roar of the more game law oratory in the legislative committee room.

Each to his taste! The field and the lobby both are open in February!

QUAIL ON LONG ISLAND, N. Y.

The open winter and absence of snow in Southern New York and some other parts of the country have been very favorable to the quail and other birds which are winter residents. We have excellent reports about the quail on Long Island and the shooting promises to be very good next season not only on the club grounds, where the birds always are plentiful, because it pays to keep them so, but also on free territory where the birds occur by reason of their importation and breeding by the preserve owners.

A rumor was abroad recently that another attempt would be made to prohibit shooting the quail on Long Island and to create one more "food restriction" preventing their increase and, in fact, preventing any one from looking after the birds properly.

The quail occur on Long Island in good numbers because they were purchased and introduced by sportsmen and they are properly looked after, because it pays to do so. Shooting is not prohibited. In fact, always, it is quite lively.

The writer has purchased and liberated several hundred quail on Long Island and is perfectly familiar with the conditions there.

There is a large population on Long Island, especially in the summer, when the coast cottages are occupied. There are here, as elsewhere, many gunners who seem to be unaware that there are laws protecting doves at all times and the quail and other game at certain seasons. There are many foxes, hawks, crows, snakes and other enemies of game on Long Island. There are many dogs, cats and rats. Any naturalist familiar with the conditions on Long Island would advise the State to encourage the people to look after and protect the birds and by no means to prohibit such industry.

Darwin said long ago that if shooting

were prohibited in England there would be fewer birds than at present, although hundreds of thousands of birds are shot annually. Any one with ordinary common sense easily can understand that if shooting be prohibited on Long Island there will be fewer quail than at present, although the sport has been excellent for many years and will remain so if people who have no interest in Long Island and know nothing about conditions there can be induced to conduct their mischief-making industry elsewhere.

ROCKING-CHAIR SPORT.

We recently read the following statement about sport in Ohio said to have been made by the President of the Board having charge of the game: "The fish and game interests of Ohio are being kept in a very prosperous condition under the care of a special committee of the Ohio State Board of Agriculture."

The wild turkey, once abundant in Ohio has become extinct except on one game farm. The principal and practically the only game bird for Ohio sportsmen is the bobwhite quail. The area for duck shooting is very limited and we have been told that motorboats and riparian residents have sadly interfered with the duck shooting which once was good on the canal reservoirs. Bowwhite has been on the song bird list for some time. We are told that the dove, also, has been placed on this list; the dove is the second best game bird in Ohio. Recently a little pheasant breeding has started and we believe those who own pheasants can shoot them without being arrested.

When we recall the days when we found it an easy matter to bag twenty or thirty brace of quail in a day in Ohio, with a few doves, ruffed grouse and woodcock and an occasional wild turkey for good measure, it does not seem to us that the practical prohibition of sport which now exists is all that could be desired, or all that easily could be accomplished by those who prefer the annual pursuit of "more game" to the annual pursuit of "more game laws."

The kind of sport now enjoyed in Ohio seems to us to be that of the nimrod who enjoys the pipe and the rocking chair. We can hardly imagine any one paying a high non-resident licensee fee to try the shooting in Ohio.

Possibly the game conditions are considered fine from the point of view of the farmer who is glad there is nothing to tempt trespassers.

NEW YORK NONSENSE.

All persons, including State Game Officers, should read the quotation from the excellent report of the Massachusetts Commissioners of Fish and Game printed on another page.

"The policy of the Commission has been to encourage in every possible way the propagation of game birds."

Permits are issued "upon request" and without charge to "any person, firm or corporation" to propagate *any species* of deer, elk, pheasants, quail, partridge, geese, wild ducks or squirrels for sale, exchange or to be given away.

The Commission well says: "Such work contributes to the public welfare."

How far behind the times New York seems to be when compared with Massachusetts and many other States which encourage the profitable production of highly desirable foods!

A large amount of money is expended annually in the effort to save the game in New York from extinction, but it is deemed necessary to charge the producer \$5.00 for a license and to arrest him if he sells any quail, grouse or other game birds he may produce excepting only two common species of wild ducks and pheasants.

The people of the more enlightened states must be amused at the nonsense in New York; those who breed an abundance of game for sale as food are becoming more and more disgusted and indignant that they can not send their food to the best market. We have a large mail on this subject, especially from the West and from parts of New England.

tending to shoot on public lands and waters will there find just what the regulations are.

Iowa.

Two most important laws have been enacted recently which should be given the widest publicity in the State of Iowa and the other States which have game breeders' laws.

One of these new laws is the Iowa statute encouraging the profitable breeding of all species of game. The other is the amendment to the New York law opening the New York markets to the sale of game produced by industry in other States. The prices for game in New York are high. There is a rare chance for money-making in Iowa both for men and women, and in fact for children, since many boys and girls have made money with game.

The Iowa law provides that:

"Any person desiring to engage in the business of raising and selling pheasants, wild duck, quail and other game birds or any of them in a wholly enclosed preserve or enclosure of which he is the owner or lessee, may make application in writing to the State Fish and Game Warden for a license so to do. That the State Fish and Game Warden, when it shall appear that such application is made in good faith, shall upon the payment of an annual fee of \$2 issue to such applicant a breeder's license permitting such applicant to breed and raise the above described game birds, or other game birds, or any of them, on such preserve or enclosure; and to sell the same alive at any time for breeding or stocking purposes; and to kill and use the same; or sell same for food."

The New York law provides that game produced by breeders in other States, which regulate the industry, may sell the food produced in the New York markets, which, undoubtedly, are the best markets in the world for game. The courts are beginning to hold that any breeder can shoot and sell the game he owns.

Pheasants sell readily for \$4 and \$5 a pair in large lots when sold as food. They bring even higher prices when sold alive for propagation. Wild ducks sell readily for \$3.00 per pair and last year many ducks were sold for \$3.25 to \$4.50 per pair.

The best prices for quail and prairie grouse are paid for live birds. There is a demand for hundreds of thousands of birds and the quail sell for \$25 per dozen and often more, in large lots. Prairie grouse will sell for \$5.00 to \$10.00 per pair in large lots and for better prices in small lots. There is also a big demand for deer. They sell for \$25 and \$35.

Things Worth Knowing.

In the States which have enacted game breeders' laws any sportsmen who wish to do so can organize inexpensive shooting clubs and

(1) Make their own season limits. They can shoot early in the fall when the weather is fine and it is a pleasure to be out of doors and as late in the winter as it may seem desirable to continue the sport.

(2) Make their own bag limits and shoot big bags of game during long open seasons. All that is necessary is to see that the game is kept plentiful; that the hawks, crows, foxes, snakes and other enemies do not get most of it, and to stop the shooting in time to leave sufficient stock birds for another season.

(3) Sell some of the abundant game to help pay the expense of producing it. This will make the people friendly to sport since they can have game to eat. The shooting can be made profitable.

The best places for game production are the posted farms which can be opened to shooting by those who deal fairly with the owners. The shooting rent paid is usually from 5 to 10 cents per acre or from \$32 to \$64 per square mile per annum. We now have hundreds of clubs which deal fairly with the farmers and always have good shooting. Some shoot several thousand quails every season without any fear of extermination. Marshes which are likely to be drained, thus putting an end to duck shooting in the neighborhood, should be rented and preserved for sport. The overflow from such places always improve the shooting on public waters just as the quail and grouse going out from "noisy sanctuaries" improve the shooting for miles about.

A MONEY MAKING INDUSTRY.

The Game Breeders' License and Identification.

BY DWIGHT W. HUNTINGTON.

We are asked why we favor the licensing of game breeders and the identification of their game when sold. Many people claim that the game breeders' industry should be absolutely free; that the breeder should not be required to have a license; that he should not be required to identify the game he sells either by tagging it or shipping it with a prescribed invoice or label, as the Colorado statute provides. A prominent and practical game protectionist of Indiana, Mr. John W. Talbot, is openly opposed to all "license and tag foolishness," as he puts it. Indiana has taken his advice and the law provides that any one may breed game "in captivity" for sale without identification. We have never opposed such legislation, excepting to comment on the words, "in captivity," which are in our opinion, a worse restraint than a small license fee and the requirement that the game produced for market must be identified before it is sold.

Certain species of game, notably the quails and grouse, can be produced far more cheaply in a wild state on protected areas than they can be produced "in captivity." They are far better both for sport and food when bred wild in the fields and woods than they are when raised in small enclosures. Captivity bred game is subject to many diseases which do not occur to wild game and tame birds are not so satisfactory from the sporting viewpoint as the birds bred under natural conditions are.

Why should the breeder of game birds be required to take out a license and to identify the game he sells when the poultrymen go free? This question sounds quite reasonable, to be sure, but we should remember that there is a decided difference between game and poultry. The idea that the State owns the game has been given prominence by the courts in America and undoubtedly it is an idea

of great antiquity going back to the Roman laws, which decided that wild creatures are owned by the people in common because they have no other owner.

Since the State, or possibly the Nation, owns the wild game or game on public lands and waters, it seems reasonable for it to require those who rear game, exactly similar in appearance to the State game, to list themselves as licensed breeders and to identify the game they send to the public markets. This is done, of course, to prevent the sale of wild game. If the State owns the game, and will furnish or permit the taking of breeding stock, it should, of course, prescribe the terms under which the breeder can sell his product.

Game bred in a wild state on inclosed farms, which some States now say can be sold by those who look after it, is more easily stolen than poultry is. If the thief can not dispose of the stolen game because he has no license and no tags or invoices to identify it, he will soon find the stealing too unprofitable to warrant his taking the risks.

If, therefore, the State charges nothing for the license issued to reputable breeders, as is the case in Massachusetts, or even makes a nominal charge of 50 cents a year (Ohio) or two dollars per year (Iowa and other States), it seems to us the breeder should not object to the regulations. The charge made for labels or tags to identify the game sold should also be nominal, in no case more than the cost of the labels or tags.

Fruit farmers often use expensive labels to identify their fruit and to advertise their farms. The game farmer should be willing, for the present at least, to put inexpensive labels on the packages or inexpensive tags on the game he sends to market.

We should remember that the game breeding history in America is young;

that it is not so long ago that there was an absurd prejudice against anyone having any game; and that undoubtedly it is easier to secure game breeders' laws when they provide that the game must be identified than it is to secure laws with no safeguards made to please those who insist they are necessary.

After all, if the breeder can get an excellent insurance against theft by paying a few cents for a handful of identification tags and an annual license fee of \$2.00, or less, it does not seem to us that he is damaged much, especially since the game sells for fabulous prices and the breeder can add the license and tag charges to the price of the game and let the purchasers pay the bill. The hotels clubs and individuals who like to eat game, all are quite ready to pay the extra price, which should not be over a fraction of a cent per pound of meat.

We believe it will not be long before anyone who legally takes a game bird on public lands or waters will be held to be the owner of it by reason of his industry.

Game legally taken in all civilized countries, excepting America, ceases to be State property and becomes the individual property of the captor or shooter. He, of course, can sell his food. We have no doubt this will be the law in America in time. It will no doubt be a considerable time before we are as free as other countries are; in the interval there is a rare

chance for game and fish breeders to make a big lot of money. Some of the members of the Game Conservation Society are now making from \$10,000 to \$20,000 per year and find the industry interesting and attractive.

There are a number of women in the business, probably about an hundred, members of the Game Conservation Society. They all find it interesting and soon all of them will report good profits as many have already so reported to The Game Breeder.

We believe that in the few States which have State game departments opposed to the profitable production of food on the farms the laws soon will be amended so as to provide that the departments shall have nothing to do with the game owned by individuals. We should not be surprised to see the departments abolished if the farmers ascertain they are depreciating farm values. Easily laws have been enacted prohibiting shooting on the farms and even prohibiting the shooting of quail and other game at all seasons.

It is unnecessary to charge anything for the game breeders' license; it is an outrage to charge \$25 per year, as they do in California, and possibly in some other States. \$5.00 per year is entirely too much.

If a food producing industry is desirable it should be aided and encouraged and not prevented by high charges.

THE MOOSE IN MINNESOTA.

By L. M. BROWNELL,

Supervisor Superior National Forest.

The moose is the largest of the deer family (*alces machlis* or *palmatius*) and was given this name by the Algonquin Indians. They are found on this continent from New Brunswick to western Alaska wherever there are unfrequented forests. They are apparently migrating northward as the forests are being exploited and the country settled.

The adult moose stands about six feet at the shoulders and may exceed this figure. The male bears very broad (palmate) divergent antlers. These horns are sometimes very immense. A pair in the Field Columbian Museum, Chicago, has a spread of 78½ inches, show 34 points, measure 15 inches round the bur, and, along with the dry skull, weighs

93 pounds. The antlers form between them a sort of basin, for each broadens out in a great shovel-shaped expansion, with marginal points or snags, increasing usually with the years of life. The horns and fore feet are the principal means of defense. The general color is dark reddish brown, but becomes slightly lighter and grayer in winter. The limbs, especially the fore legs, are very long. The neck is short and the tail small. More detailed characteristics are the broad, hairy nostrils, the overhanging upper lip, the small eyes and tear pits, long and broad ears, low stiff mane on the back of the neck, the long bell mane on the lower side of the neck and the brittle hair.

They are for the most part solitary in their habits, except during the breeding season and during the winter months. In winters of deep snow a dozen or more are often found "yarded up" in swamps.

The male animals often fight with one another. These fights sometimes last until one or both are dead. Occasionally the dead bodies are found with the horns locked together in such a manner that they cannot be separated except by breaking them.

Moose are unlike the big game animals of the western country in that they stay and feed in the same territory summer and winter. During the hot weather of the summer months they stay around the lakes and streams and are commonly seen in the water, where they feed on grasses, lily roots and wild rice. The flies bother them considerably and they are able to keep them away while in the water. In the fall they are found in the more open country. In winter, during stormy weather, they stay in the heavy timber for protection. During the winter months they browse on aspen, willow, birch, maple and hazel brush.

The big game animal of the Minnesota pineries is the moose. Approximately two million acres of land has been set aside, in northern St. Louis, Lake and Cook counties, right in the heart of the moose country, as the Superior State Game Refuge. This refuge

includes a part of the Superior National Forest. Through a co-operative agreement between the State Game and Fish Commissioner and the Federal Forest Service the administrative officers of the Superior Forest are appointed State Game Wardens. They assist the State in patrolling the area within the boundaries of the National Forest. A study of the habitat of the different game and fur bearing animals is part of the work done by the rangers. It is the unanimous opinion of these men that the moose are decreasing quite rapidly. The cause is doubtless due to several reasons. For convenience, they are classified as follows:

1. Illegally killed.
2. Killed and left in the woods by non-resident hunters.
3. Killed by wolves.
4. Migrating further north.

That there are many moose illegally killed goes without saying. Probably very few have any idea of the actual number killed in this manner. It is only a few years ago that ten carcasses of moose were seen in Bald Eagle Lake and seven more were seen in a bay of Birch Lake during the same season. Each year the forest officers find carcasses lying in the water. In practically every case it was found that apparently not a pound of meat had been taken. It is pretty generally known that city "sports" in the country for an outing like to boast upon their return of having killed a moose. They are blamed for much of the promiscuous killing in the summer time. There is no sportsmanship or glory in killing these animals during the fly season. There would be just as much sport in going out in the back yard and killing the family cow. Trappers often kill moose in the winter time for meat to bait traps and poison for wolves. Settlers and others kill them at all times to obtain meat for personal use.

The law at present allows non-resident hunters to kill moose but does not allow them to take any meat out of the State. However, they can have the head mounted and it then may be taken out.

These hunters are known as head hunters and unless detected may kill several moose before getting the head they want. The law should be changed so as to require the hunter to bring the carcass out of the woods so that some use can be made of the meat. Many people are of the opinion that wolves do not kill moose. It seems, however, from observations made this winter on the Kawishwi river, east of Ely, that several moose have been killed by these animals. This statement will be vouched for by a forest officer who was engaged on timber sale work in that vicinity and by logging operators. Many wolves have been seen in that territory this winter and wolf signs were plentiful. It is generally conceded that when a country settles up the moose move on further into the wilderness. In this respect they are very much unlike the deer, which like to hang around the settlements, apparently to keep away from the wolves.

We believe that unless the moose are given better protection in the future than in the past, they will go the route of the

great game animal of the West, the buffalo.

Note: Moose can now be legally killed by the licensed hunter only in Minnesota, Alaska and ten Canadian Provinces. If moose hunting is continued in Minnesota the only barrier to early extermination in this State is the sanctuary afforded by the Superior State Game Refuge, created in 1909 as a refuge and breeding ground for all game, particularly for moose. It is therefore of the utmost importance that this refuge be thoroughly patrolled and that illegal killing thereon be entirely eliminated. The Superior Refuge is, for the most part, uninhabited and is generally unsuited to agriculture. It is an ideal range for big game, extending along the Canadian boundary for 90 miles east and west through St. Louis, Lake and Cook counties, and is 36 miles wide from north to south at its widest point. It rivals the great national parks of the Rocky Mountain region in picturesque beauty and attractiveness.—*Fins, Feathers and Fur.*

THE DAY'S MAIL.

[It would be impossible to print a very small percentage of the unsolicited letters which come daily to the Game Conservation Society and its publication, The Game Breeder. The following letters are samples.—Editor.]

"More" Eyes Opened.

To The Game Breeder:

I enclose a check for subscription. The paper has also opened my eyes to conditions I had never dreamed existed. I am glad to see The Game Breeder and wish it would come every week instead of every month.

G. FLOYD SHULZ.

Michigan.

The Hay Fever Cure.

Editor Game Breeder:

I read the August Game Breeder last night with much interest. You are keeping it up to the mark. I noticed the item about Hay Fever and then started to find the advertisement. I looked the paper over four times before I found it. If it

had not been for your reference to the advertisement I never should have seen it. There is no invitation for your readers to send for a circular or do anything. Such an advertisement will never produce results.

M. T. RICHARDSON.

New York.

Without the "Terrific Holler."

The Game Breeder:

We notice your criticism on New Mexico, and we think it well taken. We have done less business there than in any State in the Union, save Nevada. We also notice a communication from Mrs. S. Hirsh. We have bought her stuff and we must say she is honest. In a shipment there were some small ring-necks

which were dead when we received them. We informed her without asking her to refund, but she replied with a satisfactory letter and made us good on the birds. You should speak a good word for her. It has been our experience that even where we make a "terrific holler" it is very seldom we are reimbursed.

C. AND CO.

Kentucky.

Inquiry for Quail Shooting.

Advertising Manager, The Game Breeder:

In answer to the advertising offering good quail shooting near New York, I wish to ask particulars. Will you please put me in touch with the owner of the shooting. I think it is just what I want.

Also let me know about the Longwood Club; amount of annual dues, number of members, etc.

Yours truly,

C. W. JOHNSTON.

New Jersey.

Ant Egg Technique.

Editor Game Breeder:

I am sending you a short note about the technique of ant eggs.

S.

New York.

Cotton Tails.

Game Breeder:

We have plenty of cotton tails here. Would it pay to advertise them and sell them to shooting clubs? What prices will they pay?

[Ans.—Yes, they will sell quickly at prices mentioned in our letter, provided your State game officers have common sense and the laws of the State are right. We will look into both matters. Western State and writer's name omitted pending common sense investigation.—Editor.]

Why Not Kentucky.

Game Conservation Society:

We notice remarks about a party in New York buying land in Virginia for a game farm. The laws of our State are in fairly good shape and we have wondered why people should not come to this section.

We are exactly 23 hours from New York. I can get land here for members

of the society—no rake off or commission to me—at \$5.00 per acre, which would make an ideal game farm. I would be pleased to have any sportsman who is contemplating such a farm as my guest and to show it to him and I would not expect him to buy anything or to pay for his keep. Kentucky has a common sense breeders' law and a good state game department.

R. A. C.

Kentucky.

More Ducks.

Conservation Society:

Please send me "Our Wild Fowl and Waders." Three letters in one mail.

[This book has produced a number of duck ponds where wild duck are reared for sport and for profit. Sales for two weeks, 30 books, which is going some for the good old summer time. "More" books, "more" ducks, "more" guns, "more" ammunition, "more" sport, "more" eggs, "more" live bird sales, "more" game in the markets, "more" people friendly to sport.]

A Virginia Farm.

Editor Game Breeder:

Before deciding to buy the farm in Virginia I wrote to the Game Commissioner as you advised. I am sending you his reply. Please return it when you are through with it.

F. A. W. SHAW.

Monisunk Farm, N. Y.

[The reply is printed on another page. We still think no one will be arrested for food producing in Virginia, but if the attitude of the new commissioner continues threatening as the letter indicates, it will tend to much impair the value of the farm and the tax rates on such properties should be reduced accordingly.]

One of our readers was arrested some time ago for producing game in Virginia and said that he proved that he owned the game. The court decided that ever since Blackstone's time—and long before, if we remember rightly—there was a difference between wild creatures said to belong to the State because the poor things had no other owner and game produced by industry. We believe the court told the officers to keep their hands off. We would like to hear from our Virginia reader about this case. It is some time since the matter was referred to in a letter which seems to have been mislaid.

We believe game breeding will continue to thrive in Virginia, and if the game department declines to safeguard the industry it should certainly go way back outside the fence and sit down.]

Lease Wanted.

The Game Breeder:

Will you please send me a form for a shooting lease. I contemplate forming a game breeders' association.

E. A. W.

Oklahoma.

[We are sending a copy of the lease used by one of the best game breeding associations in the Middle West. We think this lease can be shortened and simplified and that the declaratory clause at the beginning well may be left out. It states a well-known fact, but it does not strengthen the legal document in our opinion. Since leases for various terms of years must be recorded in the proper office in the States, requiring records, we always advise that new game breeding associations employ a competent attorney familiar with the laws of the locality. We believe the lease can be made very short and simple and we will publish a form in a booklet about creating game breeding associations which is in preparation. Our advice, however, will be to let the local attorney (who should be a member of the "shoot") make any changes in the form which may be needed in the locality.]

The Game Breeder,

150 Nassau Street, New York.

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Big Business.

My ad in your paper, by which I advertised to purchase certain stock, brought satisfactory results. I soon found that most everybody wished to buy, and if I had advertised game birds and animals for sale instead of to purchase I would have had an overwhelming demand. This gave me an insight into the rapid growth of the business.

ROBERT HUTCHINSON.

Colorado.

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Sharks.

Stanford University, Cal.,

Aug. 16, 1916.

Editor of The Game Breeder:

Referring to your note on sharks on page 134 of your August number, permit me to say that the only shark that is yet positively known to be a man-eater is the great white shark, *Carcharodon carcharias*. This is found in tropical seas and goes north once in a while in the Gulf Stream. It has never before been taken nearer New York than the south shore of Cape Cod, but a young one has been lately caught in New York harbor, probably the one that has done the mischief to bathers. I have great doubt whether the presence of this specimen is anything more than an acci-

dental running off the track. I do not think that it has anything to do with the killing of the swordfish, nor have I ever known a case in which a swordfish has attacked a big shark.

Thirty-six years ago I caught one of these white sharks, thirty feet long, at Soquel, in California. It had a young sea lion, weighing about 100 pounds, in its stomach. I heard of one in Hawaii which made way, not all in one piece, with a dead horse which had been thrown into the sea.

Very truly yours,

DAVID STARR JORDAN.

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Wolves.

Editor Game Breeder:

On a farm that this house operates, approximately twenty miles north of the city, a considerable number of wolves are causing trouble. I write to inquire as to the most efficient method of exterminating this pest. In addition to the wolves there are some foxes and mink that should also be exterminated.

Enclose addressed and stamped envelope and will appreciate an early reply. Thanking you in advance for this courtesy.

S. KRUSE.

Hotel Radisson, Minnesota.

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Muskrats.

The Game Breeder:

Can you give me any information of anyone raising muskrats in an enclosed slough, and if there are any such places in operation, and if more than one that you know of, give me the address of the closest one to Minnesota?

I have a large slough (120 acres) and there was taken off of this slough 2,000 muskrats which got me to thinking that raising muskrats might be made a profitable proposition.

Enclosed find stamps for a reply and thanking you in advance.

Minnesota.

WILFRED D. OLESON.

[Write to the man whose name we are sending. We shall be glad to have any of our readers answer the above.—Editor.]

MORE GAME AND FEWER GAME LAWS.

NOTES FROM THE GAME FARMS AND PRESERVES.

The Technique of Ant Eggs.

In order to separate ants from ant eggs, take a bottle and put some anise perfume in it and place the bottle among the ants and eggs. You will find the ants will carry all their eggs in the bottle without themselves remaining therein.

Caution—keep the bottle dry.

CHRISTIAN PFLEDERER.

Brooklyn, N. Y.

[We shall be obliged to the writer if he will inform us how the ant eggs sold for bird food are prepared for the dealer.—Editor.]

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Now is the Time.

Shooting clubs and game preserve owners who wish to purchase a few hundred or a few thousand pheasants, wild turkeys, ducks or other game for the fall shooting would do well to write to our advertisers now. Young game birds when full feathered and full grown can be moved safely. There will be few, if any losses. The birds can be purchased now for about one-half what they will cost later. The prices already are high. They are going higher.

Clubs which are breeding quail, grouse, wild turkeys and other indigenous game wild in the fields and where no hand-rearing is done will find it desirable to purchase a few pheasants for the fall shooting. They can be liberated to advantage shortly before the quail season opens under the club rules; and this may be quite early in October or even in September in the States which have good game breeders' laws. The early shooting when the weather is fine is desirable. Of course, the late covies of quail which bear small birds will not be shot for a month or so. It will be found quite interesting to put up a pheasant occasionally when shooting quail and doves early in the season. Some of the pheasants which escape the guns will nest on preserves where vermin is controlled.

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The Wild Duck Trouble and Other Good Notes from Minnesota.

A Minnesota reader, referring to the item in the August issue of The Game

Breeder about a wild duck malady, says we have had the same trouble with our ducks and I have found it in the ducks on other farms. It seems strange that anyone in the business should not know the disease. If it is the same as I have found it in different places, it is nothing more than "roup." Conkeys medicines can be used with fair success by those who do not have their own cures.

Our reader adds that he has discovered that a parasite known as "jiggers" kills prairie grouse. It has long been known that what is probably the same parasite is very injurious to ruffed grouse in some seasons and in some places. The "wood-tick," so called in some localities, will also make a decided impression on a lot of children picking huckleberries, as we have had occasion to observe, and one of the youths often quoted a remark of the writer (after the experience referred to) that it was safer to pick the huckleberries with dimes handed to local pickers who came to the door. Much has been written about the "tick" and the ruffed grouse.

We do not regard it strange that those beginning to rear wild ducks should not know "roup." The leading English authorities say that the wild ducks are quite free from diseases, and we have found this to be true, having bred many thousands of ducks and having visited tens of thousands more without ever hearing a complaint about any trouble, excepting the usual "straddles" and cramp.

One thing is certain, that too much "in captivity" and sometimes a very little of this will start diseases which birds in a wild state do not appear to have.

Our correspondent is clearly right in saying comparatively little is known about the diseases of birds, even poultry. The best medicine is prevention. Do not crowd the birds too much. Do not attempt to rear them in unsanitary places. Whenever possible, breed the game (especially the quail and all the grouse) in a wild state in protected, safe and attractive fields and woods. As many birds quickly can be reared by beat

keepers in this way as the land will carry and more than this means the sure appearance of some form of disease.

We have often pointed out that wild-bred birds are far more able to escape from their natural enemies (which surely will appear in numbers in the best regulated places) than tame hand-reared birds are. The last named, when liberated where the usual vermin occurs often quickly vanish and all the work done in rearing them or all the money spent in buying them is lost.

We regret that our Minnesota reader asks us not to use his name. There is nothing to be diffident about in what he says. His long letter is full of information and good sense.

If game ranching be encouraged in the big western States (as it seems likely it soon will be in all of them) just as cattle ranching and sheep ranching were encouraged and as agriculture always is, just think what will happen! Are we not right in saying America soon will become the biggest game producing country in the world?

We repeat for emphasis the statement that all State departments should permit the trapping of stock birds by reputable breeders who are prepared to multiply their numbers. It is absurd to say that everyone can shoot 10 or 25 birds in a day or some other number and that no one can procure stock birds in order to multiply their numbers.

Our readers who wish additional copies of the illustrated book on "Game Farming for Profit and Pleasure," for free distribution, can procure them by writing to the Hercules Powder Company, Wilmington, Delaware, and enclosing the coupon attached to their advertisement which appears regularly in *The Game Breeder*. The book seems to convert the people wherever it is read. Game shooting rapidly is becoming even more important than trap shooting. They go well together on the same ground.

The Crow-call.

By A. V. LINDQUIST.

With a well, accurately toned crow-call there should be a surprise to all sports-

men who have time to practice a little out of season as well as to take some interest in helping to make the duck or game shooting all the better. There is but one good quality in crows and that is that they do destroy a great many nests of the snapping turtle, but outside of that I don't see any value in them. How they can locate these nests of turtles is a conundrum to me, but that they do find them I know to be a fact as the evidence is plainly seen on turtle nesting grounds and I have seen them at work digging them up. Oh, they are wise guys, I tell you, and the harm they do is never fully realized. It will take some time to get the sportsmen to discover the effect of crow-calls on crows and to get the habit of setting aside a day now and then for crow hunting, as we do here, but it will come with time and any help in the line of recommendation by papers and individuals having one in use will soon get the calls going and the good they will do is manifold. Crows! Well you might as well say rattlesnakes to me! I surely have seen enough to know what I am talking about. I could write a book on my observations alone and what I have come across in hunting them.

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Quail and Pheasants.

This letter was sent out to try and interest farmers in quail and winter feeding; also to see if there was any direct evidence of antagonism between quail and pheasants.

J. C. PHILLIPS.

Dear Sir:—

For ten or twelve years the whistle of the Bob-white (quail) has been practically absent from Essex County and indeed all sections north of Boston. In order to try and restore this splendid bird to our covers again, work has been on foot at the writer's farm for over two years. Last season about 175 quail were reared from eggs layed by captive birds, and allowed to roam at will as soon as they were able to care for themselves. Another lot will be reared this year. These birds have apparently wintered well and scattered through the west end of Wenham and into Danvers. Some residents were good enough to feed beavies during the hard winter of 1916, a procedure which it is hoped will be followed up next winter.

The relation between the Bob-white and the pheasant has always been an open question,

and the writer would like once and for all to settle this question. On Cape Cod there are few pheasants, and many quail, whereas, here in Essex County the reverse is the case. Since our quail were wiped out by two very hard winters, they have never been able to work back and restock Essex County again. This suggests that the old cock pheasants may interfere with the nesting of the quail. This notice is sent out partly in the hope that some of the residents may be able to throw direct light on this point.

Quail are protected by law in Essex County for a term of years, but, unfortunately, laws do not always protect. To form a quail refuge a tract of land has been leased in the Birch Plains region, and, unless the large numbers of pheasants are found to directly interfere with the nesting of Bob-whites, we should soon have a fair number of birds about our farms.

The blank postal cards are enclosed with the hope that individuals who are favorably situated can send in reports of flocks of quail from time to time in order that we may form some estimate as to whether the birds are increasing in a satisfactory manner. Any other information about quail, especially the relation between quail and pheasants, will be highly appreciated.

The Bob-white is valuable both to the sportsman and the farmer. As an insect destroyer he was recognized long ago by our biological survey as of the greatest importance. Some States have even gone so far as to place him among song birds on the protected list. In view of these facts this effort to restore the species seems worth while.

Very truly yours,
JOHN C. PHILLIPS.

Massachusetts.

=

Form of Lease.

THE GAME BREEDING ASSOCIATION.

Whereas, The Farmers and land holders of and adjoining counties are now, and for years have been, greatly annoyed, harassed and often damaged by unauthorized persons trespassing upon their lands shooting at and pursuing game in and out of season upon their premises and upon the highways adjacent thereto; and,

Whereas, The Game Association has been regularly chartered by the State of for the express purpose of giving absolute protection to land holders in the full enjoyment of their rights under the state law against trespassers and unauthorized hunters, and for the further purpose of purchasing, propagating and placing on these and contiguous lands all kinds of pheasants, game birds, and game that will not be injurious to crops, and that will thrive in this climate, and for the protection of such propagated game and such natural game as is now or will hereafter be placed or found upon such lands; therefore

This Indenture, made this day of 19 , between of the county of and State of , of the first part, and the Game Association, of the County of and State of , of the second part, witnesseth: That the said party of the first part, for and in consideration of the sum of , to him in hand paid by the party of the second part, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, and the covenants hereinafter recited, does hereby grant, bargain, sell and convey unto the said party of the second part, the free, irrevocable and uninterrupted right, privilege and liberty or propagating game and shooting, pursuing, retrieving and retaining natural and propagated game upon the acres of land described as follows:

situate in the County of and State of , for the period of ten years next after the date hereof ensuing; together with free ingress, egress, regress and passage in and over the above described premises, for the purposes hereinafter mentioned, to and for the said party of the second part, its officers and members and such other persons as bear permits regularly issued under seal by such officers in accordance with the rules and by-laws of the said party of the second part.

The party of the first part covenants and agrees that he will, in so far as he is able, during the term of this lease, protect and preserve all game which may naturally or by propagation be upon the above described premises from killing, shooting and ensnaring or other interference by all persons other than officers and members of the party of the second part and persons by such officers or members regularly authorized in accordance with the rules and by-laws of the party of the second part; that he will himself observe and, in so far as he is able, will compel the observance by others upon the above described premises of the rules and by-laws of the party of the second part, and the laws of the State of for the protection and preservation of game.

The party of the second part hereby covenants and agrees that it shall and will well and truly indemnify the said party of the first part for all damage which the said party of the first part may suffer by reason of any act done or omitted by any officer or member of the said party of the second part, or by any person bearing a permit regularly issued by such officer in accordance with the rules and by-laws of the said party of the second part, for which act or omission such officer, member or other person would be personally liable in damages, it being the purpose of the Association to stand between the party of the first part and all persons trespassing upon such lands.

The Association will employ legal counsel to aid in protecting the lands covered by this agreement from trespassers, and will appoint

such number of wardens as is necessary to watch after and protect the game upon such lands from unauthorized hunters, and will further cause the lands to be posted as required by the State law.

GAME ASSOCIATION,

By.....

President.

Attest:

.....

Secretary.

.....

Duck Trouble.

Editor Game Breeder:

About this disease—it is a good description of roup. A consignment of gray partridges once came to Storrs, when I was conducting experimental work there, in just that condition.

It is a disease which originates in unclean conditions, and is contagious or infectious. Moreover, it is usually fatal, if allowed to get well started. I will be in

to see you next week and will go over the details of this and other matters.

HERBERT K. JOB.

West Haven, Conn.

Ants' Eggs.

Dr. Herbert K. Job, the author of "Propagation of Wild Birds," advertised on another page, says: Another useful early food is the commercial dried ants' eggs. There may be some question as to just how much nourishment these really contain. At any rate, the young birds are fond of them, and they are supposed to supply an element of insect food. Being rather expensive, they would not be practicable for large flocks of young pheasants, but for a moderate number of little quails or grouse they are very useful. They are purchased from dealers and should be scalded and fed moist, once a day.

Who knows how to gather and prepare these?

WILD RICE.

By W. L. McATEE.

Wild rice (*Zizania palustris* and *Zizania aquatica*)* in every stage of its growth is eaten by one or another of the North American ducks and geese, and practically all of them feed on its ripened grain. It is the staple fall food of many ducks in the numerous rice marshes of the eastern part of the United States. Ducks obtain seeds mainly from the bottom in shallow water where they have fallen into a bed of soft muck to await germination. Germination is often so delayed that grain may sprout at any time up to at least 18 months after ripening. This accounts for the fact that young shoots and germinating seeds of wild rice are found in ducks' stomachs at practically all seasons. The shoots are devoured by many species; the flowers have been found in the wood duck's stomach; and the stems and leaves of the mature plants are eaten

by geese. According to present information the mallard appears to eat the largest percentage of wild rice, more than a sixth of its annual food being rice. The black duck and the wood duck rank next as consumers of wild rice, but several other species take noteworthy quantities.

DESCRIPTION OF PLANT.

Wild rice is a tall, roond-stemmed grass with long, flat, pointed leaves (fig. 1). The stem is hollow, but is furnished with transverse partitions between as well as at the joints. These partitions may be seen when the stem is cut length-

*For a fuller account of wild rice the reader is referred to the following publications of the Bureau of Plant Industry, from which many of the details here given are taken: Wild Rice: Its Uses and Propagation (Bulletin 50, 1903); The Salt Water Limits of Wild Rice (Bulletin 72, Part II, 1905); The Storage and Germination of Wild Rice Seed (Bulletin 90, Part I, 1905).

wise. The base of the stem is in the form of a stout hook and from it arise the numerous fibrous roots which serve mainly to anchor the plant to the bottom. The flowers of wild rice usually appear during the latter part of July, but may be found as late even as November. The appearance of the flower head is

ends. A low rib runs along the whole length of one side and a shallow groove along the other. The husk of the seed (fig. 2, B) has six longitudinal grooves and a long pointed beak, the whole being an inch and a half or sometimes even more in length. The appearance of the flower head, or of the grain, distin-

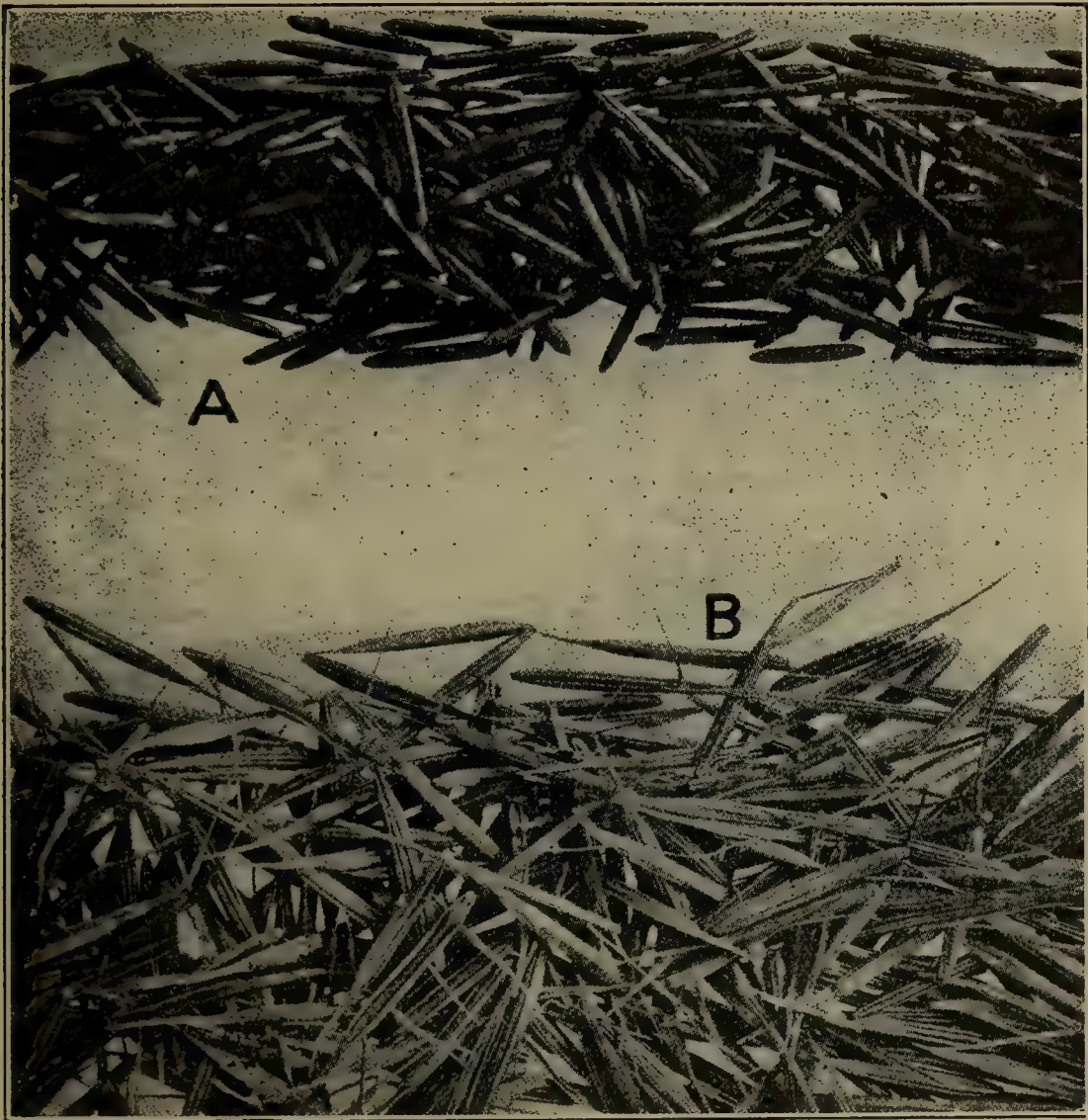


Fig. 2—Wild Rice.

very characteristic (fig. 1); the lower branches, which bear the staminate or male flowers, are widely separated and stand out from the stem, while the upper branches of pistillate flowers are erect and more or less compactly grouped together. The grain (fig. 2, A) of wild rice is from one-half to three-fourths of an inch in length, slender, of uniform diameter, and with rounded or pointed

guishes wild rice from any other aquatic grass in its range.*

DISTRIBUTION

Natural growths of wild rice have been found from the northern end of Lake Winnipeg eastward along the northern shores of the Great Lakes and the St.

*Bul. 50, 1903; Bul. 90, Pt. I, 1905.

Lawrence River to New Brunswick†; from Central Dakota, western Nebraska, and eastern Texas to the Atlantic coast; and as far south along that coast as central Florida. (See fig. 3.) The plant is rather local and of course is confined to the lowlands. The center of abundance is in Wisconsin, Iowa and Minnesota.

TRANSPLANTING WILD RICE.

Although wild rice does not grow naturally in every suitable place within its range, in most cases it can be made to do so by transplanting. Formerly wild rice was often transplanted by various tribes of Indians, and investigations by the Bureau of Plant Industry have shown that with proper treatment of the seed the plant may be propagated in any favorable waters in the country. It has also been successfully grown in Europe. The black spots on the accompanying map (fig. 3) represent numerous localities where it has been successfully transplanted in North America. The showing thus made should encourage those who are looking for a plant to make barren waters attractive to ducks, and especially those who have already tried wild rice without success. However, experimenters must be prepared for occasional failure, for both wild rice and wild celery sometimes refuse to grow in localities which appear to possess every requisite for their successful propagation. The usual cause of failure has been improper treatment of the seed between the time of harvesting and sowing, resulting in loss of vitality. When growing naturally, the ripe seeds fall directly into the water, where they sink, and, being provided with barbed beaks, penetrate deeper and deeper into the muck surrounding the roots of the parent plant. There they lie through the winter. They may germinate in spring, or they may lie practically dormant through still another cold season. The seeds therefore remain wet until ready to sprout; they are exposed to currents of water, are not in close contact with each other, and are not subjected to very high temperatures. To succeed with wild rice it is necessary only to imitate nature's methods. Keeping large

quantities of the seed in close contact often causes fermentation, but this can be prevented by cold storage.

So far as propagation depends on the preservation of the vitality of the seed, the methods* so carefully worked out by the Bureau of Plant Industry insure success. Several seed firms now handle wild rice properly, and will deliver it in either spring or fall as desired. The grain is kept wet and in cold storage and when shipped is packed in damp moss or fiber.

Sometimes when the stand of wild rice has become reduced, it is advisable to prevent consumption by ducks by harvesting the grain and then sowing it after the spring migration. Because the seeds of wild rice ripen and drop off a few at a time, the seed must be collected every day or so, or the heads must be bunched and tied, so as to prevent the loss of seed. The grain may perhaps be allowed to stand a short time in cold water (if the water is changed daily). But when the whole crop has been gathered, it should be placed at once in cold storage at a temperature just above freezing, or from 32 degrees to 34 degrees Fahrenheit, but still exposed to the air in an open cask or vat.

In cold climates seed may sometimes be perfectly preserved by improvised methods. For instance, wild rice seed kept out of doors and covered with water which was changed daily during the winter except when frozen, germinated very satisfactorily. It has been stored also in partly filled burlap bags among which blocks of ice were placed and the whole covered with sawdust and kept wet. But usually, where cold storage is not available, it is better to buy seed from a reliable firm.

Where to plant.—Wild rice thrives best upon a mud bottom (though it has been known to grow in sand); this may be underlain by various soils, but there should be a layer of mud at least from 2 to 4 inches deep and preferably deeper.

*The southern *Zizaniopsis*, with flower and grain superficially much like *Zizania*, does not have the flower head as a whole divided into pistillate and staminate parts, and the grain is short and without beak.

†It is reported without definite locality from Newfoundland.

Wild rice usually does not do well where there is much current or change in the level of the water, although it grows abundantly on tide flats. It must be remembered that wild rice is not adapted to stagnant water.

It may also be added that the salt-water limits of wild rice may be determined approximately by the simple test of taste. When water is appreciably salty to the taste it is too salty for the successful growth of this plant.*

From 4 inches to 6 feet of water are about the limits of its usual occurrence, and it does best in from 1 to 3 feet. In shallow water it may be killed by heat in summer, so it is best, in southern localities especially, to sow the seed in not less than 2 feet of water.

How to plant.—The least possible time must intervene between removal from cold storage and sowing. Broadcast sowing answers every purpose, and the seed should be thickly sown, as the growing

plants, when near together, support each other, the root anchorage is protected, and a good stand is more likely to result than if the seed is more widely scattered.

When to plant.—Fall has usually been considered the most desirable time for sowing, but it has been proved that seed sown in spring will bring a full crop, and for several reasons spring sowing is usually advisable. Where seed has been sown in fall, the bottom may freeze and the seed be carried off by the ice in spring. Ducks and other waterfowl, as well as some fishes, eat the seed, and the less it is exposed to their depredations the more abundant will be the crop. Seed is likely also to be buried by depositions of mud, or swept away by currents, especially in freshets. These dangers may be avoided by sowing the seed in spring late enough to avoid the worst spring freshets but in time to get the benefit of the first good growing weather; that is, when the temperature of the water approaches 60 degrees Fahrenheit.

*Scofield, C. S., Bul. 72, Bureau of Plant Industry, Part II, p. 8, 1905.

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The Game Breeder

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

EDITED BY DWIGHT W. HUNTINGTON

NEW YORK, SEPTEMBER, 1916.

TERMS:

10 Cents a Copy—\$1.00 a year in Advance.

Postage free to all subscribers in the United States.
To All Foreign Countries and Canada, \$1.25.

THE GAME CONSERVATION SOCIETY, INC.
PUBLISHERS, 150 NASSAU ST., NEW YORK

D. W. HUNTINGTON, President,

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Telephone, Beekman 3685.

REFLECTIONS ON A SHARK NOTE.

We are sure our readers will be interested in the note about sharks, written by the distinguished naturalist, David Starr Jordan, Chancellor of Leland-Stanford Junior University, California.

Always we are gratified when readers of ability send us timely notes. We have long known that the triumph of the so-called "more game" movement was largely due to the big number of able men who are members of the Game Conservation Society or readers of its publication. The quiet influence of men of real ability has been worth much to the cause.

TAXING GUNPOWDER.

The Congress proposes, in a new bill, to place a special tax on gunpowder of 8 per cent. on the gross receipts.

We fail to see why powder should be singled out for a special tax. We have always entertained the idea that it was a mighty good thing for a country to have powder manufactories as well as a lot of good sportsmen skilled with the gun. As the little man said, who "bought him a big bass drum": "Who can tell when a war will come? and if I'm called on to fight for my land I want to be ready to play in the band. Boom! Boom! Boom!"

But seriously, is it not a mistake for

any legislative body to single out this or that for special taxes and to carry the idea to extremes?

One great curse of the country is ill-advised legislation. All the great legal authorities in the land are aware that there are far too many laws. The game of the country has felt the effect of thousands of foolish enactments and America is the only civilized country in the world where the people do not eat cheap game.

We believe that a special raid on the makers of powder is especially ill-advised if we would encourage preparedness.

A CALIFORNIA OUTRAGE.

We still have complaints from California breeders. Here is a fine sample from an industrious lady who would like to produce some food on her premises without danger of arrest:

"I am having trouble to even get a permit to keep my quail. I have about seventy-five fine, thrifty California Valley quail which I hatched from birds given me by some friends who have quail in their aviaries here; also a few eggs were given me. I have written Mr. Pritchard, game commissioner at Los Angeles, and he only wants to give me a permit to keep a limited number and I wish to keep my seventy-five."

MARY RAHLMAN.

We have advised the lady not to move from California but to stay just where she is; to keep all of her quail and to sell her birds and eggs.

We doubt if there is a game policeman in California with nerve enough to lay hands on this lady or to arrest any game farmer for the crime of food producing provided the stock birds have been legally obtained. We raised a few hundred dollars quickly to defend a case not nearly so shocking as that of Mary Rahlman.

We have asked the lady to telegraph The Game Conservation Society, of which she is a member, if she has any trouble with the game officer and we have assured her that within an hour after she is arrested a local bank will hand her, with the compliments of the Society, am-

ple funds to make a successful defense and to recover suitable damages.

The courts are beginning to hold that it is not a crime to have stock birds legally procured "in possession;" that statutes relating to wild game owned by the State do not apply to the property of individuals and that it really is not a crime to produce food on a farm.

THE CALIFORNIA SITUATION.

In a letter to the Secretary of the Game Conservation Society, the California Game Commission has informed us that they would encourage game breeding. We are inclined to think, therefore, that the trouble must be with some underling and that the Game Commission should discharge him if the facts are as outrageous as they seem to be.

We are fully of the opinion that some action should be taken at headquarters. An arrest of a lady for food producing would, we are quite sure, prove to be disastrous to the party represented by the officer complained of. We are not slow in letting the people of a State know about it when any outrage against game breeders is perpetrated. We do not know what the politics are in this case. We do not care.

There are many people interested in game farming in California and we are quite sure the people of the State will side with them if their industry be attacked.

Recently we have been examining some correspondence between some California game breeders. One asks another how it is that he can breed and sell game birds and eggs. We are quite sure some breeders are not interfered with. We are sure there should be no favorites; that all should be treated alike. An opportunity is presented to "see" some one when restrictive laws relating to wild game are held to prohibit a food producing industry. We believe the California Commission will not favor the arresting of game farmers and we trust they will instruct their wardens to keep their hands off.

The case of Mary Rahlman requires an explanation.

SOMETHING REFRESHING.

It is refreshing to observe the attitude of the more intelligent game officers throughout the country towards the new industry of game breeding.

Over two-thirds of the States have enacted laws permitting game breeders to rear and sell game and the game is becoming very abundant in many places.

Wild turkeys, which became extinct in many States, rapidly have been made abundant on many game farms. The birds and eggs are advertised and bring excellent prices. Many do not advertise because they cannot fill their orders.

North America quickly has become one of the biggest pheasant producing countries in the world. We predict that in two or three years there will be more pheasants in the United States than there are in any other country.

Many of our readers now own thousands of pheasants and they will be sold in large numbers in the New York and other markets next fall.

America probably has more wild ducks than any country in the world. Breeders now rear tens of thousands of wild ducks and since the ratio of increase is geometrical, when it is profitable, there soon will be hundreds of thousands of wild ducks in the markets.

Our quail and grouse are increasing rapidly in places where they are properly looked after and the only reason they are not increasing in numbers as rapidly as the pheasants are, is that some States prevent the increase by law and it is difficult to get all the stock birds required.

In States which have intelligent game officers the departments are becoming of great economic importance to all of the people.

A BAD START IN VIRGINIA.

Virginia has a new game law and a new Commissioner. We publish on another page a letter from the new officer to a New York poultryman who contemplated purchasing a farm in Virginia for game breeding. He is told that the officer cannot give him any encouragement.

We heard of another reader who was

about to sail on the Old Dominion line to look at some land in Virginia and who decided not to visit the State at present.

We regret to see the new officer starting out badly on the old theory that it is criminal to produce food on the farms of his State.

One of our readers is conducting a good sized game farm in Virginia and he sells annually large numbers of wild geese and ducks and their eggs. He has been in the business many years. A number of other members of the Game Conservation Society, both men and women, are rearing game profitably in Virginia. It will be interesting to observe if the new officer is far enough behind the times to attempt to make the State absolutely a prohibition State in so far as game farming is concerned.

If our memory serves us one of our Virginia readers recovered a judgment that he was clearly right. We sincerely hope the first breeder arrested will recover ample damages.

Virginia.

Editor Game Breeder:

I am forwarding the enclosed communication to you and after you have finished with it will you kindly return it to me.

Thanking you for your information in this matter

I remain very truly yours,
F. A. W. SHAW.

Monisunk Farm, N. Y.

Mr. F. A. W. Shaw, Monisunk Farm,
New York State.

Dear Sir:

Yours 11th to this department, and yours same date to Mr. L. T. Christian, re breeding game in Virginia for sale.

We beg leave to advise you that the laws in this State do not provide for breeding game in captivity by private firms and positively prohibit the sale of same.

An effort was made at the last session of our General Assembly to insert a provision in our game laws providing for breeding game, but failed to pass.

This being the situation, this depart-

ment can offer you no encouragement so far as this State is concerned.

Yours very truly,
DEPT. GAME AND INLAND FISHERIES,
By M. D. HART,
Chief Clerk.

Editor The Game Breeder:

Your August issue speaks of a new duck trouble experienced by Mr. C. H. Shaw, of the Arden Game Farm.

I have raised some blacks and mallards in Massachusetts and believe that I have seen ducklings affected as described by Mr. Shaw, although I do not know what the disease is. I am inclined to believe this disease is a result of too much sun and also perhaps from rearing brood after brood on the same ground. Probably a change of quarters attended by scrupulous cleanliness of food and drinking dishes and plenty of shade would check the malady.

It is certainly good to get your magazine down here on the border. There are plenty of blue doves in this region. Can you tell me their true name?

J. H. HARWOOD.

With Massachusetts National Guard,
El Paso, Texas.

[The doves are probably the white-winged dove. We are sending you a book, "Our Feathered Game," written by the Editor of The Game Breeder, which has pictures and descriptions of all the American pigeons and doves. You will have no trouble in identifying all the doves and the scaled and other interesting quail which you should see in the El Paso region.]

Quail Breeding.

We shall publish in the October number three well illustrated articles about the artificial rearing of quail in America. These remarkable stories are the last word about the hand-rearing of America's best game birds and they bring the subject up to date. One of the writers who has a novel brooder says he now finds quail breeding so easy "it is a joke."

These hand-rearing experiments, taken in connection with the wild breeding methods now successfully in operation on many game farms conducted by readers of The Game Breeder, promise quickly to make the bob whites and the California quails very abundant and soon we shall

record the fulfillment of our most cherished ambition—the restoration of quail on toast. Quail shooting will be fine for all hands in many States where this bird at present is on the song bird list and where shooting is prohibited at all times.

The articles on hand-rearing will be followed by some finely illustrated articles about some of the quail farmers where quail are bred wild in protected fields, and where thousands of quail are shot every season. We hope to have some color illustrations for these articles. The rapid increase in the number of members of the society will probably make this possible. A plan for doubling our membership will be submitted to readers of *The Game Breeder* next month in a special letter.

War Birds.

The following letter was received a few weeks ago by the Bird Food Specialty Department of Spratt's Patent, Limited, London, from a British "Tommy" "somewhere in France":

"I will now try and tell you a little about the bird life out here and what I have seen and heard. The larks are quite as good as our own from a singing point of view, and it is simply splendid to hear them when we are in the trenches. What is more remarkable is to hear several larks singing in the air and at the same time shells bursting all round at the airmen, but it does not stop the larks. The finest bit of music I have heard out here was the song of a thrush. It came and sat on an iron chimney in front of the billet where I am now staying and sang for quite an hour, and it has been seen and heard there several times since. It was really the best thrush I have ever heard. The place around here is thick with chaffinches and it is nothing unusual to have two or three singing at once along the fire trench near by, but they have not a good finish to their song from a chaffinch singer's point, though I have seen some good specimens for the show bench. I have seen birds of all kinds here, but I was surprised when I found the house martins in the cowsheds and stables; there are dozens of nests in the

ceilings and of course anyone can have a good view without interrupting them. I shall be able to tell you all about them when I come home."

[Sent by The Spratts Patent Ltd., Newark, N. J., who make the foods for game birds and dogs.]

Recreation Park for Order of Owls.

Referring to the recent announcement that the Order of Owls, a well-known organization, would soon establish a large recreation park for the benefit of its members, the Supreme Secretary, Geo. D. Beroth, of South Bend, Ind., has kindly furnished the following information at our request:

The Order of Owls is an organization founded eleven years ago. It is a social, fraternal society and boasts that it is a Bohemian society of good fellows who believe in love, laughter and the kingdom of heaven on earth. It now has approximately 300,000 members and 2,130 lodges. Its lodges and members are located in every State in this country, in all the provinces of Canada, in the different territorial possessions of the United States and in the English-speaking colonies of Great Britain, including Australia, New Zealand and South Africa. The membership of the Owls is made up of all classes of men and the supreme officers recently determined to supply the membership of the order with an ideal park and preserve for hunting and fishing as well as camping and vacationing out of doors. After much investigation, a tract of four thousand acres was selected near Gaysville, Windsor county, Vermont. This tract is in the Green mountains. It is located upon and about Mt. Lyon. It contains a number of trout streams and much game, including bear, deer, rabbits and grouse and other things. The order will, within a few weeks, begin the construction of hunting lodges upon this tract, and beginning with the ensuing spring, the actual rearing of pheasants and other game birds will be taken up and carried on upon this preserve, and the birds reared will be liberated to stock not only the preserve but other territory to which the birds may migrate.



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I have under lease a most desirable Shooting area near New York City. The Quail shooting now is very good and there are some Ruffed Grouse, Rabbits, etc. This shooting can be made much better than it is provided more attention be paid to the cats and other vermin. I wish to secure two or three guns to share the expense. The ground is well known to the Editor of the Game Breeder and I refer to him with his permission. For further particulars, address

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Nothing similar can be purchased because nothing similar remains so near to the city. It will naturally continue to increase in value as a plain investment for this reason.

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We have a new Pheasant Egg Box especially suitable for State Game Departments and Game Farms which ship large numbers of eggs in small quantities.

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I have ever written. It not only illustrates and describes hundreds of articles for the Camper, Fisherman, Hunter and Explorer, but tells of my experience in the Silent Places. There are pictures of game birds and animals, and advice as to the selection of duffle, pitching a tent, caring for firearms, preparing skins for the taxidermist, etc., etc.

Camping, Fishing, Hunting

There are chapters on where to camp, Fish and Hunt; what to take, what to wear, and many "kinks" in wildcraft.

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sufficient importance to warrant extensive fish cultural operations, but the longer I have been engaged in this work the more important it has appeared to me from purely economic viewpoints. In fact, as a servant of both state and federal governments, without personally sacrificing the aesthetic side, I have been forced to see and preach the economic side. This economic side applies just as truly to game fishes as to the so-called commercial fishes. If the busy man can enjoy the sport and recreative benefits of angling for game fishes near home, he can indulge his taste more frequently and avoid the fatigue of a long journey to some distant camp with attendant loss of time in travel and usual expense of such a trip.

One does not have to travel far from home to find waters suitable for such game fishes as trout or black bass and in the wilds of nature. Most country estates have sufficient water supply to feed an artificial pond and with few exceptions such water is suitable for either trout or bass, or possibly landlocked salmon.

In most instances the land which may be most economically flowed is not particularly valuable or productive. When there is no water flowing through one's property it often happens that an adjacent stream may be tapped or at comparatively small expense diverted with an intake so arranged that the maximum desired volume of water may be obtained in time of drought and regulated in times of freshet. It may be conveyed in an open ditch made to resemble a natural brook or if the topographic conditions prohibit this method, it may be piped a whole or a part of the way.

If a natural stream is available which is not subject to severe freshets, one which has comparatively little variation in flow, it may be meandered so as to produce on a given area double or treble the area of the original brook. The contour of the land will govern as to the amount of development of this sort. At small expense a series of pools may be constructed to resemble the natural pools on a forest stream. By natural pools I refer to those that are usually formed

by a fallen tree or a collection of debris or possibly by a few picturesque moss-clad boulders.

With the waters provided, the all important question to be decided is as to the kind of fish which will best thrive in them and produce the most food or game fish and preferably both in one or more species.

In the selection of a species best suited to the waters, maximum water temperature in summer and natural food supply are the two most important factors to be considered. Water temperature has first consideration because it is not practical to regulate the temperature to any great extent. In the planning of trout pools the area to which a trout stream may be safely extended either by meandering or in ponds is limited by the volume of water supply, as it may be effected by evaporation, etc.

Some waters contain more natural food than others of the same temperature and the higher the temperature the more rapid is the growth of aquatic life upon which fish feed as well as of the fish inhabiting such waters. The maximum temperature at times of minimum water supply determines whether the waters are suitable for trout or other salmonidae.

The natural conditions may often be improved by the introduction of a judicious selection of water plants on which various forms of minute aquatic animals live and breed, and these in turn furnish fish food. Suitable plants also afford refuge for the small fishes against the big ones.

I confess that I am an enthusiast on the cultivation of waters for the production of suitable food and game fishes. At the same time I do not advise anyone to incur much expense in the development of fisheries along the lines here suggested until a thorough investigation has been made. The proportion of disappointments and failures in the promotion of fish cultural enterprises is perhaps larger than in many lines of business, involving no more capital.

Subscribe to The Game Breeder, \$1.00 a year.

WILD CELERY.

BY W. L. McATEE.

VALUE AS DUCK FOOD.

The names wild celery (*Vallisneria spiralis*) and canvasback duck have been closely associated in the annals of American sport. To a certain extent this association is justified, since the canvasback obtains about one-fourth of its food from this plant—a greater proportion than any other duck. However, the assertion that the flavor of the canvasback is superior to that of any other duck and that it depends on a diet of wild celery is not proved, to say the least. The scaups or bluebills and the redhead also are very fond of wild celery, and are fully as capable of getting the delicious buds as the canvasback. Several other ducks get more or less of this food, the writer finding that even the scoters on a Wisconsin lake in fall lived almost exclusively on it for the time. All parts of the plant are eaten by ducks, but the tender winter buds (fig. 6) and rootstocks are relished best. Wild celery buds can usually be obtained only by the diving ducks, such as the bluebills, redhead, canvasback, and scoters. The nondiving species, as the mallard, black duck, baldpate and the geese, get an occasional bud, but more often they feed upon the leaves.

DESCRIPTION OF PLANT.

Wild celery (fig. 4) is a wholly submerged plant with long, flexible, ribbon-like leaves of light translucent green and of practically the same width (anywhere from one-fourth to three-fourths of an inch) from root to tip. Of course the leaves are narrowed near the tip and may be somewhat serrate or wavy margined there. But they are never expanded and the venation is peculiar. A leaf held up to the light displays numerous straight parallel fine veins running its whole length. There are, besides, one median and two lateral prominent veins connected at intervals by irregular cross veinlets. (See fig. 7.) Wild celery may be distinguished from eelgrass (*Zostera mar-*

ina), which lives in brackish or salt water, by the fact that its leaves grow in bundles from the rootstocks, while those of eelgrass arise singly and alternate on opposite sides of the stem. Pipewort (*Eriocaulon*), a fresh-water plant, often having ribbon-like leaves, may be recognized by the reticulation of the entire leaf into small cells by veins of nearly uniform size.

In certain stages some of the arrowheads (*Sagittaria*) are difficult to tell



Fig. 4.

from wild celery, though they usually have the end of the leaf expanded into a proper leaf blade or else quite pointed, neither of which characteristics is to be found in *Vallisneria*.

The flowers of wild celery, usually seen in July, are peculiar. The staminate flowers attached at the base of the plants shed pollen, which floats on the surface of the water and fertilizes the pistillate flower. The latter is attached to a long, slender, round stem, which

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Genuine Wild Mallards, Black Duck, Green-wing and Blue-wing Teal, Pintails, Gadwalls, Shovellers, Wood Duck, Widgeon, Red-heads, Blue-bills, also a few pairs of extra choice Canvas-backs and Ring-bills; Canadian, Greater and Lesser Snow, Ross, Brant, Hutchins, Cackling and Blue Geese, supplied for propagating purposes. Finest quality in the country.

Golden, Silver, Amherst, Reeves Pheasants at reasonable prices. I also am booking orders for ring-neck Pheasants reared on my preserve for delivery in early fall.

I also have rare land and waterfowl from all parts of the world. Prices quoted for the asking.

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I develop natural feeding grounds for game and fish on your preserve.

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Wood Duck, Mallard and Gray Call Duck eggs.

All the eggs I ship are guaranteed to be from non-related, pure bred, strong, healthy birds, correctly mated; all eggs are guaranteed not to be over three days old when they leave my farm.

I also manufacture a full line of special foods for the successful raising of young pheasants and wild water fowl, also for feeding the old birds all the year 'round; write for prices.

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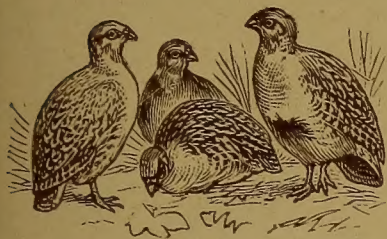
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I am prepared to fill the largest orders for these birds and for years I have filled practically all of the large State orders for both Partridges and Pheasants.

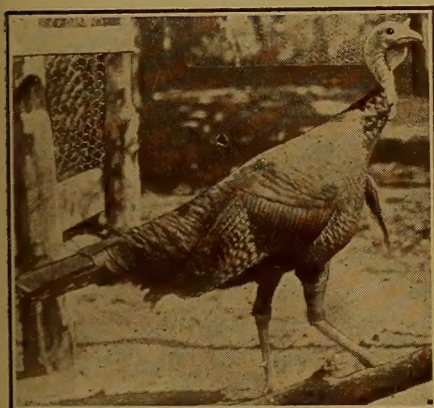
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My Pheasant pens hold thousands of Pheasants and I am prepared to furnish these birds in large numbers to State departments, individual breeders and preserves.



Wild Duck

Mallards, Black Duck, Teal, Wood Duck, Pintails and other species can be supplied in large numbers at attractive prices. Also Mandarins and all other water fowl.



Wild Turkeys

I am now the largest breeder and dealer in Wild Turkeys and can supply these birds in good numbers to State Departments and preserve owners.

I carry the largest stock in America of ornamental birds and animals. My ponds now contain nearly 200 best Royal Swans of England. I have fine lot of the beautiful pink FLAMINGOES and the very large European PELICANS. Also STORKS, CRANES, PEA FOWL, fancy GEESE and DUCKS. My pheasant pens contain over a thousand Ringneck and fancy PHEASANTS. All stock is kept under practically natural conditions. I have 60 acres of land entirely devoted to my business. Can also promptly furnish BUFFALOES, DEER, LLAMAS, RABBITS, etc.

Orders booked during summer.

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WM. J. MACKENSEN

Department V.

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Contains valuable stimulating and appetizing properties and should be added to staple food during raw and inclement weather, as it frequently wards off attacks of Gapes, Diarrhoea and Cramps.

Spratt's Bone Meal FOR GAME

Is an invaluable adjunct to the soft food diet. It contains valuable lime-phosphates and is much cheaper than fresh Bone, which contains at least 50% moisture and which of necessity has to be given quite fresh.

Beware of Gapes. Prevention is better than cure.

Spratt's Blackerite

is the most effective yet agreeable method of completely eradicating this disease.

Fine feathers make fine birds.

Spratt's Partridge Meal

makes both.

Success in raising semi-wild birds can only be attained by care and experience. Correct feeding is half the battle. We supply the right kind of ammunition and you will get results if you follow directions.

Send for "Pheasant Culture," price 25c. "Poultry Culture" sent on receipt of 10c.

"Dog Culture" sent on receipt of 2c stamp.

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